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HISTORY OF OREGON'S MOVEMENT FOR WELFARE OF BLIND

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OREGON INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

Within thirteen years after her admission into the Union as a State, Oregon's educators and legislators realized the need of making special provision for the education of its sightless citizens. Many Eastern commonwealths and European countries had already taken steps to take care of this problem by establishing special institutions for the instruction of their sightless. The investigations resulted in the act of the Oregon Legislative Assembly in October, 1872, establishing the Oregon Institute For The Blind, and appropriating Four Thousand Dollars for the purpose of establishing it.

The act for establishment of the Institution was approved October 4, 24, 1872, and read as follows: (in part)

"Section 1. There be and is hereby appropriated the sum of Four Thousand Dollars, gold coin, out of any money in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended for the education of blind persons of this state.

"Section 2. That said sum be expended for the purpose aforesaid under the direction of the State Board of Education, and full discretion is hereby given to said Board or a majority thereof to rent such buildings, employ such teachers, purchase such books, and provide for boarding and lodging the scholars, as they deem best to carry out the provisions of this act. Provided, They do not in any case exceed the appropriation herein made.

"Section 3. The State Treasurer is hereby authorized and required to pay the said sum of Four Thousand Dollars in coin upon the requisition of the said Board of Education, in the mode and manner provided by law for paying other appropriations.

"Section 4. The said Board shall report their officials proceedings under this act then to the Legislature at each general, or special session." Approved October 24, 1872.

The first attempt to officially educate the children of Oregon began in 1872 when February 28, 1872, when the doors of the Oregon Institute for the Blind were opened in East Salem. Miss Nellie Simmons was the first teacher and the first official registration included two pupils. These youngsters were boarded out by contract among private parties at the expense of the State. The Rev. J. L. Cabell of Corvallis was the first Superintendent and he began his duties October 7, 1872.

Gradually the Institution grew, and the term of 1874 found it opening with a registration of seven blind pupils.

A report in a Senate Journal for 1876 gives us an idea of the development of the Institution. The Committee report found the Blind Institution not properly supplied with the conveniences necessary to the health and comfort of the pupils; not supplied with books and apparatus necessary to facilitate instruction of the pupils thereof. The report went on to bring out that the pupils ought to be supplied with water both for sanitary purposes and as a safeguard against fire.

In 1874 the Oregon Institute for the Blind, located in western part of ~~the~~ Salem at that time, had six female and one male student, according to the report in the Senate Journal for 1874. The institution gave free education to the eighteen of the State; while the law read that board and lodging were given to the needy. The recommendation of Rev. J. H. Babcock, superintendent, asked for an appropriation of $6,000.00 to operate the school for the ensuing two years.

An editorial in the Oregonian for June 22, 1874, gave an interesting description of the institution in the early days. It follows-- (In part.)

The annual examination of the State Institute for the Blind was held at Salem last Wednesday, June 17, 1874, by the State Board of Education, for their satisfaction and information. This governing Board was looking after the manner in which these pupils of the State had been cared for and instructed. It was not announced to the public and was attended by few except the Board and teachers. The attendance for the past school year--1874-5--was only nine pupils; quite a small number, but yet as large as can be supported by the appropriation by the legislature of 1872. Of these pupils, three are males and six females. Ages varied between 12 to 20 years. They have been maintained and instructed at short expense to them and have been taught reading, spelling, cyphering, and vocal and instrumental music.

The program which we publish elsewhere will give our readers some idea of the extent of the course of study which has been pursued. The writing is done with a lead pen pencil by means of grooved tablets; while the cyphering is performed on the slate out across two rows uniformally into open spaces, and by means of zinc types which have figures instead of the letters that ordinary type have. The printing is done by means of type pointed like with pins, by which the paper, after having been placed in a suitable frame, is perforated. We have before us some specimens of this pin printing, and also of the raised letters, which any of our readers are at liberty to examine. Besides these studies, the girls have also practiced as they wished some of the various styles of housekeeping. And they have made many useful and ornamental articles, such as lamp mats, time tables, and books. Nearly all the instruction has been given by the principal, to whom great praise is due for her labors in behalf of these pupils, who, like herself, are afflicted with the loss of sight. The present corps of instructors consist of Rev. J. H. Babcock, superintendent; Miss Nellie Simson, principal, and Miss Emma Horn Hernandez, music teacher.

Governor Grover and Honorable J. F. Chadwick were members of the Board present at the examination. They expressed very emphatically their great pleasure with the manner in which the school has been conducted. At the same time, those who know the diligence and the care with which the Board has provided

further means of the pupils testify that the important trust which the State has put in their hands has been wisely and faithfully discharged.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION AT THE OREGON INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

Annual examination of classes in the Oregon Institute for the Blind was held in this city--Salem-- on Wednesday last, June 17, 1874. The occasion was a pleasant one. The pupils showed a gratifying proficiency in various branches of study.

Program of exercises:

1. Instrument trio, piano, guitar, and violin, by Misses. Watkins and Savage and Mr. Brewer.
2. Instrumental solo, Blanche Savage.
3. Duet by Blanche Savage and Josie Watkins.
4. Greeting glee, by the school.
5. Address of welcome, Mr. Brewer.
6. Examination in geography.
7. Recitation, "Death Of Napoleon," by Frank Tomlinson.
8. Solo and chorus, "Beautiful Twilight," solo by Blanche Savage.
9. Examination in history.
10. Address by Governor Grover.
11. Recitation, "Chain Of Life," Blanche Savage.
12. Compositions, "Chain Of Life," by Mr. Brewer; "Lessons in Geography," Miss Leslie; "George Washington," Alice Milligan; "Why Is It Not Permitted To Be Idle?" Misses. Savage Amaz and Watkins.
13. Examination in arithmetic.
14. Recitation, "Reflections Of A Blind Girl On Spring," Josie Watkins.
15. Duet, "Do Something For Each Other," Misses. Morgan and Leslie.
16. Exhibitions on reading, printing, writing, and spelling.
17. Song, duet, and comic chorus, "I Shall Be Satisfied," Miss Simpson and Josie Watkins.
18. Addresses by Hon. T. J. Shobrick, Rev. J. H. Wilcox, superintendent, and Miss Nellie Simpson, principal.
19. Closing song, "Farewell."

The Oregon Institute for the Blind occupied an important front place position in the Oregonian for October 6, 1878. --

While Oregon may be in infancy in many respects, the State is not far behind in her public philanthropic institutions, and has contributed quite liberally out of her limited means for the education and instruction of those classes whose misfortune have prevented them from taking care of themselves. Perhaps no one class is more deserving of public aid than those deprived of sight. Self-evident can read. "It seems therefore, but just and right that we, who are endowed with all of heaven's best gifts should contribute liberally to the support and education of this and other unfortunate classes of society." The State Government recognizes this claim on the commonwealth, and makes provision for them at the expense of an overwilling public who would much preferr to see money appropriated for this purpose than to see it go into the pockets of individuals or corporations who, by intrigue and strategy, have succeeded in getting some favorite job through the legislative assembly and thereby enrich themselves at the expense of the public and too often to the deprivation of more worthy objects.

Members of the Legislature met in joint convention to inspect the work for the Blind and the methods for teaching the sightless of the State. There was a large crowd of spectators. Ten pupils occupied seats at the head of the hall, while the fallen ladies with their escorts filled the seats on either side, the lobby being filled with the stronger sex. A piano and two sewing machines appeared strangely out of place in front, while dozens of gas jets threw a brilliant light over all. At 8 o'clock the President of the Senate called the assemblies to order and at once introduced Professor O. H. Kiser, principal of the Institute. (Few remarks.)

He said that the present scholastic year began in October, 1878. School lasted but six months then the appropriation ran out, the scholars returning home. The present term began about three weeks ago. Literary, musical, and mechanical department--same divisions as in the last--mechanical hardly developed as yet. About the same method of instruction is used as is used in 19 like institutions in the United States.

Gilbert McGuire readily added such sums as 741 plus 676 plus 541; while other multiplied 567 by 789--doing it all mentally, as well as more difficult examples in fractions and interest. They performed more complicated examples by means of type which are set in little frames manufactured for that purpose. Two types only are used to represent the ten figures, one of them has a key on one end, while other has "0" on one end and "1" on the other. The first, with the green bar up, denotes 1; with it to the right, figure two, left, three, down 4, while the 1 with the open part similarly inverted denotes 567 & 0, and other type with appropriate characters furnishes them with the 3 and 0. They are able to work out almost any example with this little device.

The New York Point system is replacing the line system of reading. Professor Kiser introduced the Point system in Oregon

with marked success. Also Stanie Savage and Hattie Hoffman used sewing machine with evident skill, through their own booklet.

The House Journal for 1873 reported eight in attendance at the Institution. The Journal shows a recommendation of $40.00 be placed in the hands of the teacher of the handwork department. There was a course of training in vocation recommended to be given after the regular course. Improvements were suggested for the sink and sewer system. The cellar was reported to be in bad condition. The school needed relief maps, $25.00; enlarged books, U. S. astronomy maps, $20.00; need 10 new spellers; one case of letters in relief for examination, $10.00; and paper. There was also made for an organ for the music room.

Proposed course of study: first year, different systems for the blind; second year, spelling, reading writing, and mental arithmetic; third year, the above with geography, history, grammar, composition, and physiology; fourth year, natural philosophy, astronomy, elementary algebra, geology, and botany; fifth year, rhetoric, logic, mental and moral philosophy.------ recommended an insertion of reading each day from standard authors. A diploma was scheduled for presentation after the course of study.

Expenses of the Institution: rent, $300.00 per annum; salary of principal, (Mrs. [illegible]) $1,000.00; board of pupils, $2.50 per week; salary of music teacher, $250.00 per annum. Recommended $2,400.00 per annum.

The following protest ~~of~~ by the principal of the Institute for the Blind and the answer by the "alleged" superintendent of the Institution show how ~~early~~ politics early entered into the exploitation of the work for the blind.

This was taken from the Oregonian for Wednesday, October 3, 1878, and was titled "Nibbling a Charity Fund."

This letter was addressed to the speaker of the House, and follows in part.

"Dear Sir: Since some Salem correspondent of the Oregonian has seen fit to call attention to E.C. Simpson's superintendency of the Oregon Institute for the blind, I wish, as principal, to state a few plain facts.

"I took charge of the institution, as principal, March 3 1877. During the remainder of school year such a person as superintendent was wholly unknown. The matron cared for all the pupils, providing everything needed. I did the teaching and purchased all things for the school room except one globe. And the same is true up to this date.

"The first intimation I had of Mr. Simpson's appointment was about September 1, 1877. The pupils, on their arrival, informed me that they had received letters from Mr. Simpson, stating that he was superintendent of the school. Knowing this to be utterly useless, and the funds much needed for purchasing appliances, I went to Governor Chadwick, as principal of the school, and objected to the appointment. Mr. Chadwick told me that Mr. Simpson had not been appointed, and expressed astonishment that he had so written to the pupils. From some cause I was not satisfied that Mr. Chadwick had told me the truth, so I went back to him, and he again stated that Mr. Simpson was not appointed, and should never draw a cent from the appropriation.

"If necessary I could prove all this, as it was said in the presence of a third party.

"Permit me to say, Mr. Simpson never acted as superintendent unless he did his 'acting' in the secretary's office when he drew the warrants. In justice to Mr. Simpson I will state he was at the school eight times during the entire year, remaining not exceeding five minutes at a time. In other words, he has been inside the building forty minutes, all told. During these short visits he listened to the recitations, as did other visitors. He was also present at one quarterly examination, but I never dreamed that he was more than a visitor.

"And I known that Mr. Simpson drew three hundred dollars from the fund belonging to the blind, I should never have stated in my report that 'the board' had done all in their power, for the money he drew for nothing, as it seems to me, would have paid for the appliances so so much needed.

"You can read this before the legislature, or make such use of it as you deem best. I do n't wish to do Mr. Simpson wrong, and if he has done work of any kind for the institute to the value of three hundred dollars, he can state that it was, and thus set himself right. Indeed, it is not Mr. Simpson that I censure, if it be true that he has done work for the school, but Mr. Chadwick, who told me a falsehood, under which I labored until the treasurer's report revealed the truth.

Very respectively,

Jennie E. Dawne

Principal of Oregon Institute For Blind"

On November 4, 1874, we find in the Oregonian a retaliation to this protest. This retaliation was by Mr. Simpson, the "alleged" superintendent, and reads as follows:

Salem, October 31, 1874

"To the Editor of the Oregonian:

"As your paper has taken occasion several times of late to refer to my having drawn certain sums from the State Treasury as superintendent of the blind school, I respectfully ask space to say a few words in regard to the matter.

"I believe that this subject was first mentioned by an anonymous correspondent of the Oregonian, of whom I shall perhaps have something to say hereafter. I desire now more particularly to speak of the communication which lately appeared in the Statesman and Oregonian over the name of a lady who was formerly, and possibly is still, a teacher in the blind school. I should have some hesitation about doing so, if I thought she had really written the communication, for, of course, I could under no possible circumstances have any controversy with a lady, particularly with a lady who was in other years my schoolmate and friend, and for whom I have always entertained the kindest feeling. I am satisfied, however, that the real author of that article was not the lady referred to, but the cheerful anterior scribbler whose name she bears; and as to him I feel justified in writing with a great deal of freedom. I am only sorry that he has seen fit to screen behind his wife and to thrust her forward to fight his battles. From what I know of that most estimable lady I am sure that she would never of her own accord have been so wanting in good taste, as well as in common gratitude, as to rush into print with an accusation of falsehood against the late Governor of the State, after having been for eighteen months one of the most favored appointees of his administration, and after he had, in his last official act, singled her out for special commendation. Indeed, in the communication as it originally appeared in the Statesman, there are unmistakable evidences that it was written, if not written, by the "Theosophic Doctor" from Gilchrist, whose diploma I left. The moment I read it I was convinced it was

he who furnished both the malice that inspired it and the scholarship that adorned it. The expressions "scholastic gear" and "the Board done all in their power," are evidently characteristic of the graceful pen that was trained in the classic shades of "Fountain Home University," that mythical institution which, like the fleet of which the poet sings, "never was on land or sea."

"Now as to whether the teacher made that I was superintendent of the school I am not able to say, and I do not particularly care. The fact is that I was superintendent, and that I was regularly appointed to the position by the concurrent action of both members of the Board, as the record will show. The appointment was made, not at the instance of Governor Chadwick, but upon the suggestion of Dr. Rowland, and without any solicitation on my part. Indeed I never dreamed of such a thing until the matter had been suggested. The appointment was just as legal too as that of the teacher herself. The law in express terms gives the Board authority to appoint all officers, teachers, and other persons employed about the school and to fix their compensation. (See Code of 1896, p. 24.) The duties required of me were: that I should exercise a general supervision over the institution, visit it as often as seemed to me to be necessary, attend to adjusting the accounts of the patron, take care of its property, conduct the correspondence with other schools of like character, make purchases upon calling upon me for whatever else might be demanded of me by the Board. For this service my compensation was fixed at twenty five dollars per month.

"Before visiting the school at all I requested Dr. Rowland to acquaint the teacher with the arrangement, for fear that she might not receive me kindly, owing to the fact that her husband had got a little out of temper with me on account of certain letters to the Virginian signed "Timoleon." A few days afterwards Dr. Rowland told me that he had a talk with the teacher and that it was "all right". I then began visiting the school in addition to performing the other duties required of me by the Board. I should have visited the institution much more frequently than I did if the exercise had seemed to require it, or if I had not been fearful of making it unpleasant for the teacher by being too obtrusive. Besides, I was told at one time by one of the members of the Board not to visit so frequently. As it was, the statement published over the Lynchburg News shows that I went there a good deal oftener than any thought necessary. I am pleased, however, to learn that I succeeded in making myself so agreeable that that lady thought my visits so rare and so short as she is wont to say they were. It is a source of gratification to me also, that she took such an interest in my reading as to keep a record of it. I had not thought of doing so myself.

"As to whether a superintendent was necessary in all, I will not take it upon me to say. That was for the board to decide. They left it with them, and it was neither the teacher's business nor mine to volunteer any advice upon the subject. They employed me, as the law gave them the right to do, to do certain work for certain pay. I did the work according to contract, and I felt, as they thought, that I was entitled to the pay. They had the same right to hire as that they had to pay my predecessor, Reverend Dr. Babcock five hundred dollars a year for similar services, or to employ Reverend Dr. Knight as superintendent of the state school. Nor, in my judgment, is a private secretary under any greater obligation than a preacher to do such work for nothing.

"The gentleman whose diploma did not review intimates that my services were not worth the money. As to that I have only to say that if it was worth it, and a year to teach a school of eight pupils thirty-two weeks, it was certainly worth three hundred dollars to superintend it. Besides, if the "quantum meruit" doctrine is to be applied in my case, I want it applied in my favor as well, as against me. If I owned less than I received as superintendent of the blind school, I certainly earned a good deal more than I received as private secretary, as my entire compensation for the past eighteen months was one thousand, four hundred and fifty dollars a year, and I humbly conceive that I did ample work for the money.

"Now it must have pained the commercial soul of the Ogle-thorpe "Doctor" to draw that thousand dollars a year! For, be it known, economy is one of the leading features of his character. This was what got him out of the ministry. He came to Oregon as a preacher of eternal truth, but he was so exceedingly economical in his interpretation of that article, both in public and in private, and it became necessary to turn him out of the pulpit. This fact makes it seemingly impossible for anybody to confide very implicitly in his views of right and wrong. A person who has been expelled from the ministry on a charge of falsehood has hardly the necessary capital to do a very extensive business as a moral broker. It is useless for the "Doctor" to try to attract the attention of the people of Oregon to his attributes until that diploma arrives. He told us that it started from his mother's bedroom in Virginia a little over four years ago, and it has not got here yet. It is on its way round--in a horse. In fact it turns out that the "Doctor" not only had no diploma but no mother in Virginia. His real parents live near Knoxville, although he persistently denies all knowledge of them.

"The most conspicuous feature of this whole business is the shouting ingratitude of the "Doctor's" conduct towards ex-Governor Chadwick. After living upon his patronage for nearly every hour of his administration, he turns upon him the moment he is out of power with insult and coarse vituperation. This is an act of almost incredible basis. The violence our that snaps and snarls at every other living thing will not harm the generous master who supplies it with a kennel and a bone to gnaw.

wound

The least, not reptile that crawls through the green slime of the pestilence-breeding swamp and sucks venom from the malarious air will not ~~sting~~ the hand that feeds it. The viper is at stung the bosom which has warmed it into life lives only in fools. Fittingly enough it is reserved for the unfilial son who has disowned the mother who bore him to turn with malevolent purpose against his best friend and his kindest benefactor."

This communication was signed by Eyl. C. Simpson, the "alleged" superintendent of the Oregon Institute for the Blind.

Some interesting information regarding the Institution is found in the following article by J. B. Horner, appearing in the Oregonian for December 25, 1884. This letter was written to the Oregonian by Mr. Horner.

"THE BLIND SHALL SEE."

"Fortunately this is duly appreciated in our State. Statistics show that in appropriations to the actual number of blind persons in Oregon, there is a larger number educated than in any other State in the Union. Ten percent of the actual number are receiving instruction in our School For The Blind; ninety per cent are too old. An accomplished gentlemen said: "We are ashamed to say that we never knew anything of the merrits of this Institution before, and we are also ashamed to confess that this is the first time that we ever visited a school of this nature. We are glad to say that the students are industrious, and seem to be contented with their lot."

"Although as ~~lex~~ early as 1872 the Legislature made provisions for the education of the blind of our State, yet it was not until February 23, 1873, that the School opened. Miss Nellie Simpson was the first teacher. Her school gradually grew from two to six pupils. Boarding out was provided in private families at the expense of the State.

Rev. J. H. Babcock of Corvallis~~xx~~ was appointed superintendent of the School, and commenced on October 7, 1873. Miss Dora Hermendez was teacher of music. The term of 1874 opened with nine pupils. Owing to the resignations of Misses. Simpson and Hermandez, Professor Charles H. Kaiser, connected with the New York Institute For The Blind, was appointed principle. (He was blind.),. He took charge of the musical and literary department at the beginning of the next term, October 4, 1875. On March 5, 1877, Mrs. Jennie E. Dawne was appointed principle.

The expenses of the School from the beginning until 1878 ~~we~~ were defrayed by a bienn~~xx~~ biennial appropriation of $4,000.00 by the Legislative Assembly. In 1878 the appropriation for the ensuing two years was increased to $5,000.00. In 1882 the biennial appropriation was further increased to $8,000.00. The Snowden building ~~ax~~ on Twelfth street, being ~~the~~ the most convenient and commodious that could at that time be secured, was rented.

April 16, 1883, marks the date of the re'opening of the School under the Honorable C. E. Moore and his wife, both coming from Benton county, as superintendent and matron respectively while Mrs. J. M. Patteson was selected music teacher. Superintendent Moore, at an early age, obtained an education about equivelant and very similar to the classical course required in our colleges. He begun active life as a school teacher in the State of Vermont. In 1851 this pioneer moved to Oregon. Here he taught school until the Civil ~~Waxx~~ War at which time he served for four years as Judge of Polk county. Though he has since then been in the school room only a part ~~ofx~~ of the time, yet his required qualifications, literary inclinations, ready tact, close discrimination

, sound judgment, careful economy

careful economy linked to his progressive spirit, his paternal bearing and normal influence, happily combined to eminately qualify him to lead the blind along new paths over fields and into worlds where they can see and learn to be self sustaining, and possibly like blind Milton, or the unfortunate

Beethoven, give to the world thoughts, precious sonnets, or inspiring sonatas that would be chanted on down through the annals of time.

The Judge and lady have raised their own family and have turned their attention to the blind children of Oregon.

Miss Nelson, present teacher of music, is an accomplished lady. The pupils learn music very readily, according to her.

The students are quite familiar with the Moon type, the Line type, and the New York Point. The Point was declared to be preferable and would some time be adopted by the English speaking world. Were it not that so many useful books were printed in the other two systems, many believe that they would be immediately discarded. The students also write the ordinary letters of long hand quite legibly. The paper is pressed into a line frame. By this means the blind are enabled to keep their lines straight.

A careful examination of the essays showed a singularly combination of a retentative memory and remarkable ingenuity. They are taught, with some additions, exactly the same studies as are commonly taught in our first class, commonschools and academies. Grammar and composition are taught under the head of "Language Lessons". The teacher assigns subjects to the pupils and requires them to write essays upon them in his presence. There are one thousand school teachers in Oregon who would be astonished at the rapidity and ease with which these blind pupils solve the most difficult problems found in Bro h's "Mental Arithmetic." The visitor takes great delight in the earnestness they evince in their study. The superintendent said: "They are eager to learn. They grasp an idea like a hungry child does its food; and they can and should be taught to do everything that a 'seeing-person' can, except to see."

The State Board of Education is, by law, the Board of Managers, the guardian of the work generally. We have learned from the superintendent of the school that each and every member of the Board has taken a deep interest in the organization of the school work as well as a constant, personal interest and ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ supervision in all its subsequent progress and development, from which they deserve great praise.

During the last vacation, the superintendent visited similar leading schools for the blind in the East. Adding an industrial department is recommended. There are now two hundred and fifty volumes of texts and miscellaneous books in the library.

That provision for permanent housing of the blind form the gist of a recommendation in the Senate Journal for for 1883. It was pointed out that the institution had been renting in past years. A broadening of the vocational, or industrial work was recommended, and further it brought out that sufficient appropriations should be made for the purchase of better curriculum equipment and that special effort should be made to establish an industrial department as soon as practicable.

An Oregonian editorial for January 22, 1883, appeared under the editorial caption: "The Deaf, Dumb, and Blind." At that time the legislature had begun to meet on odd numbered years instead of the even numbered years as in the revision. The editorial—

Governor Moody in his message says in part: "Provision for the proper education of the deaf and dumb as well as the blind is a public duty." In the performance of that duty the state should be governed not so much by regard to economy as by consideration of what is the best policy. The report of the Oregon School for the Blind shows that at present it has eleven pupils and that "with this number and good economy the running expenses can be met with $4,000.00 per year." Governor Moody speaks well of the school, and we have no doubt that as it is doing well under the condition.

"We think that it would be well for the proper authorities to consider whether it would not be wiser to follow the example of some of the other smaller states of this union, which do not attempt to maintain institutions of their own for the education of the deaf, dumb, and blind, but provide for their education in the larger institutions in neighboring states. For example, Vermont, a more populous and wealthy state than Oregon provides for the education of its deaf and dumb wards at Hartford, Connecticut, and for the blind at the Perkins Institute in Boston. This is not from economy merely, but because of the large and firmly established institution of Hartford and Boston better advantages are afforded them than than could be reasonably provided for a handful of its wards in institutions of its own. The education and development of these unfortunates, if undertaken at all, should be upon the best possible foundation. In the older and larger institutions there are not only better facilities for instruction, but better opportunities for industrial training than a young young state, with a small population and consequently small number of deaf, dumb, and blind can possibly provide. There is a large and well appointed school for the deaf, dumb, and blind at Berkley, California, which is very well spoken of in the report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, with a teaching force of 19, and a course of study extending what is usually taught in the common and high schools of the state.

and even preparing students for college.

If this State can make a contract for the education of its deaf, dumb, or blind in this California Institution, it is evident that in some place they under larger opportunities for instruction than can be provided at home, and at a saving of expense to the State. In saying this we do not intend in the least to disparage the schools at Salem.. It is simply a question as to what is best under all the circumstances for the state to do; whether we shall continue the present arrangements, which result from a necessity of at its limitations deny to those we seek to benefit, many opportunities and stimulations, or whether we shall, if possible, provide for their instruction in the larger institution of our neighboring State.

As the wheels of progress moved forward in the Nineteenth century we found in the Ignes Journal for 1887 these recommendations an adequate system of sewage, furnace for heating building, changes in the interior of the structure, and an appropriation of $2,000.00 for this work and for the furnishing of the industrial department.

In the Oregonian for 1889 there is an article that summarizes the development of the Institution up to that point as brought out in the Board of Education that acted as Board of managers for the Institution and from data gathered on other occasions. During the previous biennium eighteen pupils had received instruction. Fifteen was reported to be the highest number in attendance at any one time. Of the whole number, ten had never attended a school before. The cost for the biennium closing amounted to $6,000.00; while the improvements had cost $1,936.00. The health of the pupils was reported to be excellent and no deaths were reported. "With no knowledge of books or letters many pupils have learned to read and to write to their absent friends in print and their seeing friends on the typewriter," reads a statement in the report in part.

"A start has been made in the industrial department. A small shop has been built; a broom machine purchased," it continued. "Five boys had made good progress, and one had learned to make good marketable brooms and had gone to work in a factory. That it could be a good thing to establish an industrial department so that the pupils could learn some sort of an industrial trade, is again stated in the report.

To prevent the idea of fostering in the children the spirit that the inmates were dependents of the state in later life was one problem mentioned in this interesting report. How to administer the generous provisions of the State so that its wards shall not come to think that the State must do everything for them is the serious question at stake in the education of the sightless in the institutions. The problem is how to train them, not to habits of dependents, but to awaken all their energies, to enable them to see that the State only helps them in order that they may learn to help themselves.

In this connection it is interesting to note that about this time there began to develop in metropolitain schools of the East the movement and system where the sightless and defective vision pupils were taught in the regular schools with certain special instruction a few hours each day in the Braille and other specialized work necessary. These so-called sight conservation classes are rapidly developing in a great many of our larger schoolroom districts. And with the development of the good roads and the new system of transportation it seems most certain that the idea of sending the sightless to the rural schools will develop in the due course of time. Obviously, this overcomes the strong objections to having institutions and keeps the sightless in their homes. The specialized instruction necessary, such as in teaching Braille and in typing, could be given through the field work and home teaching service that most of the commonwealths already provide for the sightless. In the elementary curriculum the matter of vocational and industrial instruction is not so important. That little is taught in this connection could easily be given through the home teaching and field work service. But in those early days of the Nineteenth

century, sending of the sightless pupil to the regular public school was completely ~~lamented~~ indeed off. It was a reform movement that would have to remain till the dawn of the twentieth century. In Oregon it is an educational practice that has not yet developed. Acting on their own initiative many of the pupils of the State School for The Blind have left the institution and have completed their work in the public schools.

The criticism is advanced in this connection that the blind student would not have the advantage of industrial training. But the contention of the writer is that the advantage of the home training among parents and the mixing with the outside world so far outweigh the value of a mere industrial training that there is really no advantage of an industrial course at all. The industrial course could be left until the youngster reached the age for secondary education; or even after completion of the high school course, and this training could be obtained by installing courses at the Institution for The Blind in Portland.

Among the sightless there are a large number of youth with an extremely low mentality. Often it is argued that they could not be taken care of in the public schools. On the other hand, the administrations of schools for the blind throughout the country already point out that this group tends to pull down the standards of the respective institutions where they are taught. The theory has been advanced that they should be taught in a wing of the feeble minded school. Those who had the intellectual capacity could easily be taught the skills and other necessary examinations through the home teaching and field work services.

The question of consolidation of the Deaf and Blind Schools had been discussed throughout the life of the two institutions. In 1893 a report of a special investigation to the Senate is against any such merger.

On June 9, 1893, an Evening Editorial dealt with the question of consolidation. This letter, appearing on the editorial page that was at the time being handled by that distinguished Idaho journalist and editor, Harvey L. Scott, reads in part:--

> The consolidation of the blind and deaf-mute schools can scarcely be called a measure of economy if it defeat the purpose for which the latter school was founded. It is, of course, desirable, and in the estimation of that deeply interested class--the taxpayer--necessary to reduce the running expenses of the state institutions to the lowest possible limit consistent with their efficiency. But a saving that defeats this purpose or seriously impairs the usefulness of any public institution is misnamed economy.

The editorial went on to point out that that superintendent of the blind school was not a teacher of deaf-mutes and knew nothing of the problems of the other field. Instead, it brought out that a highly trained specialist was necessary for each field.

It is to the higher offices of the state, beginning with that of the Governor, that the pruning knife should be vigorously and judiciously applied. It went on to bring out that while the expenses and appropriations increase in the higher executive offices, an attempt to save a few hundred dollars by sending the deaf-mute school without a teacher, is the climax of false economy. It is as if--to compare great things with small--a family, driven by stress of circumstances to reduce its table expenses, were to cut off the milk supply of the children at a saving of fifty cents per month, while increasing, or at least neglecting to diminish, the wine supply of the elders.

Even of the nineties shows a steady increase in the enrollment and in the appropriations. In 1891 the appropriation of $10,000.00 sought was $1,000.00 higher than the previous biennium. The Press Journal shows that the children had become quite expert in typing by that early date. Of the fifteen pupils, eight were girls, and seven were boys. When a tract of 100 acres was bought outside of Salem in 1894 for the new deaf-mute school, the blind took possession of the abandoned deaf-mute institution.

A sum of $10,000.00 was appropriated for the new structure being then occupied by the sightless. In commenting on this an Oregonian editorial for March 27, 1894, said that the large appropriation for the land and buildings for these two schools was wholly unnecessary and inexcusable. It went on to say that the superintendent of public instruction seconded by the "professors" of the two schools, is largely responsible for it.. Governor Pennoyer and his associates on the board ought not to have expended the appropriation. Present quarters are ample for both the schools now and for years to come, concluded the editorial.

From the early days there are indications of dissatisfaction with the management of the institution. Only in two cases have the peculiar qualities necessary for successes for the blind schools been in complete satisfaction on the part of the pupils. They were in the Superintendencies of Jones and Morse. The regimes of each of these two figures, who are understood to have won the hearts and sympathy of their pupils, were cut short at an extremely early date, in the minds of them their former pupils. Mr. Jones resigned to go back to Illinois to become superintendent there; while Mr. Morse was claimed by death. That politics early played an important part in the choosing of a superintendent is brought out by the discussion above for the years of 1890's. In 1899 there is record in in the Senate Journal of an investigation of the management of the blind institution and a written report was handed to the less legislature. In 1897 pupils of the school are found to have petitioned the board of Education for the purpose of laying before that body certain grievances.

The Oregonian for June 10, 1897, tells the story of the grievance of the youngsters in the school for the blind.--

Their grievance, summarized, is that they complained the superintendent insufficient of advantage them in their studies. They asked that they be allowed to make their statement in the presence of Superintendent J. L. Carter of the institution. The board granted the request, and from 10 a. m. till near the noon hour today was given to hearing the matter.

The entire board of commissioners, Governor Lord, Secretary of State Kimwold, and Superintendent of Public Instruction Irwin.

Superintendent Carter and four of his pupils may calls. Johnny Price, Alvina Denfren, and Jane Jackson appeared.

The students had reduced their grievance to writing. They do not think Mr. Carter has the necessary qualifications for the head of such an institution; that frequently problems have presented themselves in the classroom requiring which is not full no final opinion, and which the class had to solve for themselves. They accused the superintendent of lack of concentration, and say that it is hard for him to apply himself, and summing up by saying it is discouraging to try to progress under the present management.

The pupils gave specific examples of problems that they claimed the superintendent did not discuss of.

Carter answered at length. He said he is no walking encyclopedia, but made a general denial of the charges. He claimed that the pupils of the Oregon Blind School have as thorough knowledge of the world gone over as have pupils of other states. Both the superintendent and the students were courteous in referring to each other.

The school then had nineteen pupils. The protest was made by the eleven pupils. The matter was taken under advisement by the Board.

In 1901 there is record in a House Journal of a legislative investigation. After holding a hearing the legislative committee found the proper food and care were given the pupils under the regime of superintendent Carter. Friction between the students and management was found; and this friction was not by reason of any particular act on the part of the management; but caused principally by scolding, finding fault with pupils, and lack of sympathy on the part of the management with the pupils. This friction has lessened efficiency and attendance.

"and is very detrimental to its interest, and while we do not blame the management for any particular act or thing done on its part or for any particular omission on its part, we are satisfied with the school that the school will not be prosperous under the present management, and, therefore, recommend that a change be made in the management," reads the report in part. It was further suggested that persons having reached their majority not be permitted to enter the school. A cut in the number of teachers and employees was suggested, and the committee urged a teaching of more useful arts and trades instead of higher branches of education.

Activity on the part of the pupils soon brought about removal of Superintendent J. L. Carter. That the following two administrations were highly appreciated forms the gist of a summary of evidence gathered by the writer. Administration of J. W. Jones followed, and his work was characterized chiefly by development and general satisfaction at the school. Study of his reports clearly reveals that this champion of the sightless had his pupils at heart for he continually ~~was~~ stood for their behalf. His suggestions and recommendations to the Board and Legislature are comprehensive and set forth a consistent and steady program of improvement. He ~~made~~ made a continual thorough analysis of the curriculum and tried throughout to apply it to the changing environment of the outside world so as to train the students to meet with problems of the outside world after completing their course at the school. It was only unfortunate for the work for the youthful sightless, especially, in Texas that larger fields attracted him. It was under his superintendency that the Braille system of reading and writing replaced the former "New York Point system which had been introduced some 30 years before in Oregon by Dr. Piney from the East. The reports of Superintendent Moore, successor to Jones, reveal fully as interested an individual in the welfare of the sightless. He suggested everything from bettering material improvement of the institution to establishment of a system to take care of the adult blind of his state. With

embodying many of his recommendations were presented in several legislative sessions, and many become parts of the laws of Oregon.

"The autocratic reign of "Dad" J. H. Howard," who has held the superintendency since 1913 has not been so highly appreciated by the students and alumni of the School. On one occasion efforts were made to remove Mr. Howard by petition on the part of the pupils. The board at that time did not grant a fair hearing to these poor sightless youngsters of the school. The entire matter was quieted down as rapidly as possible. An environment of strict, institutionalized discipline has replaced the former home atmosphere of the previous administrations. The pleasant smile and happy attitude of pupils meeting up and down the front walk of the school along Church street is now replaced by the grossness picture of the sightless persons tapering on the campus--the boys at one end and the girls at the other--with a strict watch kept over them by monitors and disciplinarians. A true, old-fashioned home life is replaced by a strict institutionalized atmosphere; an atmosphere that pupils reaching an age of rationalism are leaving the place in floods and either attending public schools, or entering the Washington State School for the Blind at Vancouver, Washington.

A general theory is that the isolation and separation of the boys and girls will check any chance of later marriage. But if this be the theory, the theory has completely fallen flat in practice for many of these pupils have been marrying and inter-marrying upon leaving the institution. Even meeting and social gatherings are almost taboo. Practice of such medieval, autocratic theories are certainly the highest violations of the mores sociological theory. They tend to tear down all natural human tendencies for social relationship. It means

It seems to the writer that the best prevention for intermarriage of the pupils of the institution lay in the teaching of more scientific principles of eugenics will complete frankness regarding the facts ~~the~~ and theories. It would not at all be inconsistent for an educational institution to teach these principles. They are already to be a part of the subject matter of many of the courses in the secondary curricula.

First complete and comprehensive report for the Oregon State School for the Blind was made in the fall of 1904 by the 1905 legislature. Superintendent J. W. Jones compiled the data. Members of the Board of Education were Governor George E. Chamberlain, Secretary of State F. I. Dunbar, and Superintendent of Public Instruction J. H. Ackerman. The summary follows:--

Installation of a septic tank after some 20 years of scrimping in this behalf is stringent as being responsible for improvement of the general health of the pupils. An appropriation of $17,000.00 for the ensuing biennium was sought. During 1903 there were 41 pupils enrolled, while the daily average attendance exceeded 30 pupils. For 1904 there were 38 enrolled, and the daily average attendance was nearly 30 pupils. It was then reported to be the smallest school in the United States devoted exclusively to the education of the blind. The Superintendent pointed out then that other commonwealths the size of Oregon had very unwisely placed the blind on their teachers, and had materially lessened the cost of education.

The cost per capita then was computed to average $180.00 per pupil, based upon annual average daily attendance. According to the then latest report of the commissioner of education, the the average per capita cost for 16 of the 30 blind institutions in 1903 actually amounted to $271.00. Value of the buildings and grounds was fixed for the Oregon institution at $18,000.00. The average investment for each pupil was about $600.00, according to Superintendent Jones; while that of the other institutions listed in the security averaged $1,800.00 per pupil.

Improvements for 1903-4 had included: seven new bathrooms, concrete walk on Church street, septic tank constructed, and other minor improvements. Salary of Superintendent then amounted to $83.33 per month; while the matron, Mrs. Jones, received, $30.00. Each of the two teachers received $45.00 per month. Mrs. [illegible], music teacher, received $40.00. Total monthly salaries for officers, teachers, and employees amounted to $417.33/

The report said that the so-called literary department gave an education equivalent to the tenth grade, or completion of the sophomore year in the regular high school. The musical department gave instruction in piano, vocal, chorus, violin, and other instruments. For that time there was reported to be a good gymnasium fitted up with up to the minute apparatus. The sloid system of manual training was used; having been introduced in 1893; and a great number of models and tools were used in this department for hand training of the sightless. This extremely fine curriculum for a School for the Blind of those days reported a well equipped piano tuning department, chair caning, hammock and net making, and other work. Girls received instruction in knitting, as crocheting, and bead work both by hand and by machine. In connection with this more curriculum it will be noted--in contrast with the studies of some 10 years previous--that the old classical training had tended to disappear and that the courses were both more along the lines of the science of modern religion for the purpose of training the pupils to meet and solve problems that they would meet in their practical world.

An interesting point follows:-- By act of Congress on April 27, 1904, continues the report, Braille and embossed matter was permitted to go free through the mails under certain restrictions. This was an amendment to Chapter 2 title III of the postal laws and regulations of the United States.

Grasping the problem of the adult blind, which predominated in numbers, Superintendent Jones in his 13th report pointed out that Massachusetts and other commonwealths had issued commissions whose special business and job it was to study the condition of the adult blind. He indicated that the machine age was changing things to such an extent that it was necessary to conduct a great deal of research relative to the important matter of employing the sightless. Encouragement of the research and such investigating points of view indicate a liberal minded and progressive point of view that are extremely essential in good qualities of an executive, especially in the work for the sightless.

The general session laws of Oregon for 1917 added a statute making it compulsory for the county superintendent, by the fourth Monday of July of each year, to report to the superintendent of public instruction at Salem the name, age, and post office address of every deaf-mute, and blind person in his county between the ages of five and twenty-five years who are deaf, or

blind to such an extent as to be unable to acquire an education in common schools. A later amendment required that the district school clerks report the deaf-mutes and blind to their respective county school superintendents. In practice this statute is far from being enforced. Recently the chairman of the Portland Lions Club welfare for the blind committee tried to secure the number of blind reported under the act for 1929. It was revealed that nine were then filed with the state superintendent of public instruction at Salem. Common sense, if nothing more, would lead you to believe that there were more than nine blind in Oregon for 1929.

The 1931 report revealed that Superintendent Jones had been called to a larger field at the Illinois School for the Blind at a greatly increased salary. [illegible] Shores, former superintendent of schools at Silverton, replaced Mr. Jones and carried on with the constructive progressive policy. In as much as the usual custom in these institutions is to have the wife of the superintendent become matron, Mrs. Shores was made matron.

Among the improvements during the latter part of the superintendent Jones regime and the introduction of the superintendent Shores regime was the addition of a new building with kitchen and dining room; while the second story was used primarily for classrooms and dices for the social gatherings. The North half of the main building's third floor during that regime had been converted as dormitory space for 50 pupils. Among the minor improvements of the period there was spent some $500.00 ——— for extension and improvement of fire escapes, new piano, and two new typewriters.

Standards of the school had developed to such an extent under Superintendent Shores that the pupils

had passed the state eighth grade examinations with extremely high honors that attracted the attention of the entire commonwealth. With all the high honors they took in scholastic achievements, an eternal weakness that always seems to brand itself with a sightless person is the fact that the blind pupil is usually weak in spelling. Psychological explanation of this is that the pupil fails to form a proper visualization of the complete word as it appears in full spelling. This sightless pupil most always pictures the highly contracted word as it appears in the Braille and embossed type combinations. For that reason it is advocated that the blind students during the early part of the elementary curriculum should be given instruction in grade one of the Braille, which means a system of contracted words and presenting the word in complete and full spelling.

Under the act of 1913 creating the Oregon State Board of Control, the name of the Oregon Institute For The Blind was officially changed to the Oregon State School For The Blind. Section 14 of the act makes the executive head of the School to be known as: superintendent. The superintendent shall be selected and may be removed at the pleasure of the board, and before assuming the duties of their position, said executive head shall take and subscribe to an oath that will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Oregon, and each shall furnish to the State of Oregon subject to the approval of the Board, a bond, in such reasonable amount as the Board may designate, conditioned upon the faithful performance of their duties. Said executive head shall, subject to the approval of the Board, appoint all assistants, officers, and other employees of the Institution under their jurisdiction, and may suspend or remove them, reporting all acts of suspension or removal to the Board for approval or disapproval;

removal to the Board for approval or disapproval; said executive heads shall have control of the wards of the State at the institution under their jurisdiction; shall prescribe or direct their treatment, care, custody and discipline unless otherwise directed by law or by rules of the board; adopt sanitary measures for their health and comfort; promote their mental, moral and physical welfare and development; and shall enjoy such other powers and privileges and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law or rule of the board or as may lawfully attach themselves to their respective positions. Said executive heads shall reside at the institutions under their respective jurisdictions and shall be furnished, free of charge, with bona fide residence or housekeeping rooms for himself and his immediate family, household furniture, provisions, heat, and light from the supplies of the said institution. The Superintendent of the Oregon State School For The Blind shall have an annual salary of $1,200.00," continues the act establishing the Board of Control. (Later the superintendent's salary of the Oregon State School For The Blind was increased to $1,500.00 per year by legislative enactment.) "Said executive head shall receive no other fees or emoluments, but shall receive their actual ex traveling expenses when traveling in the service of the State.

In passing at this point it is interesting to note that Superintendent Monroe in his report handed to the 1913 legislature recommended an act for the prevention of blindness by using drops in the eyes of the infant at birth--which was not finally adopted finally till the 1915 session of the legislature--and further he suggested an appropriation of $2,000.00 for a home teacher to visit the homes of those who have had no instruction in the common trade.

Defining some further duties of the home teacher superintendent Howes pointed out that the officer could teach some of the many things that the sightless can be taught to do as well as the seeing. In this connection it might be an interesting point to mention here that executives of the work for the blind now highly recommend that the home teacher should be a blind person, if possible, because the proper qualified person with education and training in social work establishes a certain confidence that the sighted contact does not give the blind pupil and student. The mere spirit of independence and resignation to handicap of the home blind home teacher has a tremendous effect on the sightless subject, it is generally conceded. However, on the first visit it is recommended that a sighted social worker go with the home teacher on the original rounds with the purpose of making a visual study of the subject and the home environs.

Shortage of funds during the school year of 1911 prevented operation of the school for a full school semester.

Prefacing the superintendent's report for the 1911 Legislature the State Board had this to say in part--"No more is more pitable, more deserving of all our sympathy than those birth or accident has robbed the human being of the blessings of sight. There is nothing so piteous or so helpless as a sightless child. Anything the State can give from the fullness of its purse to aid or remove in small part the stumbling blocks from the darkened path of these most unfortunate beings is money well in a noble cause. Therefore, the board bespeaks for this legislation your most careful and conscientious thought."

During the biennium from 1911-13 the Superintendent's report shows that a pipe organ was installed at the institution, and that the old problem of sanitation was settled once and for all times when connection was made with the city sewer system.

In the session laws for 1913 the following amendment was made:--"The Oregon State School for the Blind....shall be used as a free training school for such blind persons as are now or may hereafter be enrolled; provided, however, the length of time which any pupil may continue in school shall not exceed ten years; except in special cases the Board may extend the time from year to year. No pupil shall be retained in school after it has been ascertained that such pupil has ceased to make progress or is not being benefited. Any pupil may be dropped for cause at any time, by the Board. It shall be the duty of the superintendent of said School to see that each person enrolled is given reasonable instruction in the subjects taught at said School, and to select the necessary teachers and employees for the successful maintenance of said School according to the methods in vogue in similar institutions."

Chapter 223 of the session laws for 1913 made an appropriation of $[illegible],000.00 for salaries and maintenance of the School; $7,500.00 for heating plant; $1,750.00 for purchasing of necessary furniture and equipment; $[illegible],000.00 for expenses for necessary repairs and improvements.

In the session laws for 1913 it is clearly defined in the legal English that the Oregon School for the Blind shall be considered as educational institutions only.

Section 80 sets forth that the actual and necessary traveling expenses of all indigent deaf, or blind, children going to and from the School for the Blind, or Deaf, together with the costs of all clothing necessary for their comfort, shall be borne by the county of which each the said children are residents. Said traveling expenses and cost of clothing to be paid by the county court upon presentation of properly itemized claims duly certified to by the county school superintendent or the superintendent of the State Institution for the Blind.

Again in the Eighteenth Biennial report for the State School for the Blind Superintendent Moore is found to be recommending a suitable man for a home teacher for the adult blind of the State. In portions of the basement of the main structure, it is further reported, the older girls are taught plain cooking, care of the kitchen and dining room, together with various other household duties. A significant point, showing the interest of the Superintendent in progressive measures for betterment of conditions for the blind, is the fact that Mr. Moores had attended the twelfth Biennial convention of the workers for the Blind that was held at Jacksonville, Illinois, on June 24, 1913. In this report Mr. Moores gave the interesting information that tactual print evolved in 1784 of Valtine Haüy in Paris in 1783. He made the lettered books in raised Roman letters. Louis Braille conceived his method of points in Paris in 1829. It is this Braille system that is now generally used.

Mr. Moores further recommended manual school for the adult blind at the Perkins Institution until such time as a state workshop should be established. His recommendations for a broom shop, manual training equipment, and another piano tuning department were put into effect but within the immediate future.

In his report for the 1917 Legislative session Mr. Moores comments on the success of his years of efforts in the movement for the information of blindness in that the statute was finally passed by the 1913 Session of the Legislative Assembly. The recommendation at this time for an industrial department went through, and that department was established with the bringing of William F. Holbrook, (sightless), from the Perkins Institution for the Blind at Boston to assume instructor in this work. Further Mr. Moores recommended a bill to appropriate three hundred dollars per year for training for higher education of the blind, and further recommended a House of Industrial Aid for the Blind--establishing bureau of information and industrial aid for the purpose of aiding the blind in finding employment and teaching industries in their homes.

In 1913 there was a convention, according to the Tribune for September 14, 1916, to establish commission of medical experts to serve without compensation for the purpose of studying and making survey of the eyesight of children at the State School for the Blind and other institutions of the State. A Telegram editorial under the section, "Prevention of the Evil of Total Neglect to Blind Children," brought out that superintendent Moore had been authorized to ascertain at what age eye specialist could be employed by the year to look more of newly enter at the State School. Superintendent Moores had said that about two-thirds of the pupils could see light and he believed that it was possible that in some cases complete vision might be restored.

At the death of her husband, Mrs. Meg Moores was made superintendent for a year. She handed in the twenty-first biennial report for the school. The recommendations included early sight saving room, and included care of pathologies and supervision of the pupils.

J. L. Howard became superintendent of the School on September 1 1910. Mr. Howard became ill[illegible]. They have continued in this capacity up to the present writing of this document. There were five teachers and a supervisor mentioned in Mr. Howard's first biennial report. Before this regime visiting days were set at every day in turn the week, and after that time it was changed to every week day that school was in operation and restricted to the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Mr. Howard and his wife had been previously employed in the Michigan School For The Blind some years before. For a while, he toured at Bad River and work throughout the State. Immediately preceding his coming to the Salem Institution, he was head of the school system at Fort Lynn, near Fargo Fly.

In his report Mr. Howard told the Board and legislature that the health of the pupils was good; that pupils were kept under a careful supervision in public while during school hours; that the parents were notified in serious illness cases. He recommended increase in the teaching force from five to six ~~[illegible]~~ Teachers. The number formerly employed. An additional industrial teacher was asked for in order that the literary teachers could devote their entire time to that field.

Regarding finances, the company years had expended as much Four Thousand Dollars to cover the exceptionally high cost of food stuffs and certain that went up after the world war period. He recommended general increase in salaries and wages.

Mr. Howard recommended: "In order to make room in the main building for an office, one extra school room and teachers sleeping room, and that the superintendent and his family may live in separate quarters, I recommend that a superintendent's separate dwelling residence be built on the campus" also

a commission on epilepsy, to review the legislation so as to improve the student conditions of the school. The first biennial report added the additions to the laundry and other improvements.

The superintendent and assistants desired in the school for the blind from the gift of a residence adjacent to the school. Women of Oregon in their meeting on June 24, 1921. It was described as the poorest equipped of any of our state institutions. Further, it was realized that it is leading to the similar experiences and on account of inadequate ventilation and fire escapes is a menace to the wards of the state which it houses. The biennial report went on record for appropriations for a new building, repairs for the old one and the furnishing of such equipment and facilities as will make the institution comfortable, convenient, healthy and safe for the blind children.

A specialists in eye, ear, nose, and throat work examined the pupils of the institution in April, 1922, without expense to the state. There were thirteen tonsils and adenoids removed; eight minor operations performed; five pairs of glasses fitted; seven refractions taken care of; and two general operations performed.

In order to better the appearance of the grounds the superintendent installed an irrigation system. Water was to be taken from the creek on the south side of the premises.

One of the most constructive improvements for the State School for the Blind in many years was granted by the 1923 session of the Legislature in response to a recommendation by Superintendent Brown. This was in the form of a $30,000.00 boy's dormitory. Constructed on the northwest corner of the campus. This structure, according to the report of the superintendent, will remedy the lack of sufficient and adequate sleeping rooms. In each room.

[illegible] Hoover [illegible] the [illegible] building, recommending that it be built to accommodate 80 girls. [illegible] Hoover [illegible] that if he built to accommodate 80 girls. Behind Hoover's back [illegible] had gone ahead and had [illegible] be carried into effect, it was [illegible] be converted into either a teachers' cottage, or an infirmary. [illegible] Hoover [illegible] civic [illegible] would be erected along Mission street to match the one for boys. The long vista of Mission street and the [illegible] along that thoroughfare have been made at this writing.

Mr. Hoover wrote: "I believe that it is time to consider building an [illegible] Administration building, fronting south along Mission street. The [illegible] unit would have a full outlook for expansion."

Throughout several of his reports Mr. Hoover asks for [illegible] stations to enlarge the small chapel. For the 1[illegible] legislative session he wanted $4,000.00 for this [illegible] use. The basement would have been used for the manual training work and vocational [illegible]. Recent sessions did not grant the amounts sought for [illegible] improvements on the campus, seemingly, on account of the general state deficit in the treasury of more than a million dollars.

In his latest report Mr. Hoover wrote that numerous social activities outside of the regular curricula have been encountered. These [illegible] diversions in social contacts are [illegible] rep-outra a wonderful help in forming the complement to the [illegible] educational work of the school. The [illegible], which the [illegible] the realization of a more complete, [illegible] life. The [illegible] of our students [illegible] that these [illegible] problems [illegible] the school

course should be carried on with ever increasing zeal, blending and perhaps blotting out many peculiar mannerisms of the body and narrow, disguided thoughts of the mind to the end that our students shall be more fully prepared to live in a seeing world in which they find themselves. The time of pupils in these resident schools not being fully taken up as in the homes of seeing pupils attending day schools, is sure to be spent altogether too much in idleness, spreading and enlarging on disloyal gossip, cultivating evil and often obscene habits of talk and action and doing other things highly detrimental to the best development of themselves and their school.

In this document the Executive of the School for the Blind has touched upon some vital problems that hit more at some of the evils of institutional life rather than being so specifically attributal to the loss of sight. Lack of contacg with the outside world will truly develop a narrow minded point of view. But the remedy does not lie in the fields that Mr. Howard is attempting to put in practice at the institution through a strict, military-like discipline. The set of rules and regulations applied to the institution are really applicable to a penal institution for criminals. But blind students are not committed to the School as punishment for crime. Instead, they are brought there to learn to lead as normal a life as possible. In his effort to segrigate the pupils, Mr. Howard has put into effect a system that completely thwarts the development of personality, individuality character, and even intelligence which higher forms of the human make-up hit at the very heart of the thing that education and readjustment to handicap are trying to even establish. Social work attempts to develop personality. Education attempts to develop personality. But Mr. Howard has completely overlooked

these vital principles for the sake of putting into practice some decayed theories that died long ago with the passing of the Middle Ages. They are contrary to the theory and practice of modern science of education, and in fact to all modern sociological sciences. So strict has the discipline been that seven pupils have left the institution within recent years and have completed their courses at the Washington State School for the Blind. They have quit school never to return. None of the alumni ever return en mass expecting to find a home-like welcoming spirit.

In the development of ethical and moral character Mr. Howard, at least in theory, seems to have an inkling of the importance of these activities in the social sciences. He recommends the proper amount of physical training for development of the body. He has a vague understanding of how to mold the pupils into proper citizenship through extra-curricula activities; but at the same time his strict rules and regulations completely stem the tide of development along these lines. For instance; dancing and social gatherings which are so important in social life are almost unknown around the institution. The administration doesn't even seem to encourage mixing with the outside, so-called sighted world.

As far as schools for the blind go throughout the country, Professor A. F. Holbrook, who is about as capable and as able a teacher as can be found in the country, has built up a model tuning, broom making, and manual training department. Chair caning and girls industrial work in a small way are taught. But absolutely no efforts are made to bend this curriculum to meet a changing industrial environment. No efforts are made to train the students to enter into the radio and automobile fields, a new developing science. The vocational service of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau tells of successfully placing the sightless in such remunerative

vocations as: shoe making, vulcanizing, poultry raising, and massage. That there is need of broadening of the curricula to take into consideration a training that will adjust and rehabilitate the handicapped pupil to adapt himself more to the changing environment of the century seems to be a vital need of the Salem institution. Coming of the radio and the phonograph have almost made the old piano tuning a thing of the past. The writer happens to have been one of those trained in piano tuning and he stands in a position to fully realize the rapid passing of the piano. Piano sales throughout the country have almost dropped to nothing, compared with past years; while radios and the modern and developing means to convenience have jumped forward in leaps and bounds. Family ~~exchequers~~ exchequers have been cut to take care of automobile purchases. Meanwhile; the old line piano tuning keeps going down and down as a means of livilihood for the sightless. Modern furniture reduces chair caning practically to nothing. Broom making is merely holding its own; but will most likely drop rapidly with the coming in of the electric vacuum cleaners and other modern means of keeping the house clean.

Studying these cold blooded facts square in the face seems to indicate there there is a vital need of complete reorganization of the curricula under Superintendent Howard. Research should be established to find out what new lines of endeavor for the sightless might lay. Mr. Howard doesn't even have enough interest to get out and investigate the field. The writer does not in the least mean that Mr. Howard is ~~not~~ falling down in his job to give the youngsters an education. But he does chose to be heard on the point that the youngsters are not being taught to become a part of the economic and social world in which we live.

There is a steady stream moving out of the Salem Institution into the Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind where they adjust themselves and settle down for life in what they seem to think is a home provided for their social purpose by the State. If Superintendent Howard were on the job, he would be doing something to stop this steady stream. Already he has completely overlooked a mighty fine chance to place a sightless person in a so-called cigar and news stand in the state capitol building at Salem. Instead both he and the head of the Oregon Employment Institution at Portland as well as the members of the Board of Control basily slept while a former night watchman at the Portland institution for the sightless was permitted to establish himself in that stand solely because he had been a night watchman at the blind school. Can a more disgraceful fact of outright laziness stare the executive heads of the work for the blind of the State square in the face?

At this writing there is a new state office building being erected in Salem. Fortunately we have a fine organization in the Lions clubs who are at least making some effort to place them the sightless in a stand in the building.

Higher education for the blind is a field that is open to a very small percent. Out of every known group, higher education is a field that is open only to a few. The real vital problem of taking care of the greater masses is one that at least partially lies on the shoulders of the Superintendent of the Oregon State School For The Blind. Even if the Executive would pull his record in this most important of all activities up to parallel his achievements in securing material improvements for the School he would become a Superintendent and an administrative head in whom the Board and people of Oregon might become proud. The aim and

ideals and accomplishments of the Jones and Moores administrations might be taken into consideration by Superintendent Howard.

In his reports to the Legislature Mr. Howard merely passes off the problem with the statement that the state course of study is being followed as nearly as possible.

Such a generalization is just about as sugar coated as could be placed in any report, so dry that it would make the Sahara desert look like an oasis. Instead, why doesn't he tell us specifically what his curricula is made up of. Why doesn't he tell us how efforts are being made to teach the sightless arithmetic and mathematics. Evidently, he has done nothing along these lines. At least, he is silent about it. No curricula for the blind has yet completely and satisfactory solved it. The Braille library in the school is extremely small. Mr. Howard has even been sceptical about adopting the new and improved system of interpointing. Yet he boastfully tells us in his report to the Legislature that he follows the State course of study. His curricula makes no effort to tell what is being done in bookkeeping; yet this is extremely important in the world of business. Most sightless persons operating stands keep books in the Braille and embossed type systems. But Mr. Howard doesn't seem to know anything about it. He doesn't care, evidently. He has obviously never investigated. Probabilities are that he would wake up out of his dream and might be horribly shocked if he knew that the sightless stand dealer in the Multnomah county court house kept a complicated system of books in the embossed type. Yet he sits around and sees to it that his complicated system of rules are strictly enforced and that the boys and girls do not follow their instinct of play.

Rapid development of the sight conservation classes and system of sending the blind to the public schools throughout the country leads the writer to believe that the day is not very far distant when the sightless and those with defective vision in Oregon will be sent to the regular district school. Already there is a movement under way in Portland for the establishment of sight saving classes in Multnomah County school District No. 1. Growth of the bus system of transportation in the rural districts makes both the elementary and secondary curricula to the student in the outlying district have practically the same opportunity as ~~has~~ to the youngster residing in the city.

Not only would such a system keep the blind youngster in his home; but it would tend to better adjust him to his social environment. Greatest of all it would have the tremendous effect of developing a personality, an individuality, and a character that no institution can give to any youngster. These classes will eventually mean a great financial saving to the commonwealth. Cost of educating the child at the State School For The Blind amounts to around $500.00 and $600.00 per child per school year. Investigation for the proposed sight saving classes in the Portland schools shows that the average cost per child in the sight saving classes would amount to approximately $175.00 per school year.

Establishment of a system of sending the child to the public schools would most likely mean a complete revamping in the present institutional plan. Fear of losing their positions is going to mean that the administration, teachers, and employees of the School For The Blind will most likely rise as in revolt against any such plan as this; but the commonwealth is not maintaining the School for their benefit, although it often seems that way.

For the trained worker in the blind the revised plan would take care of them. As for the politician, who has exploited the general welfare of the sightless for some 60 years in Oregon, there is and of rights ought not to be any room for him in the work. Members of the Board and other politicians should take care of their relatives and friends by placing them in their own offices and in other places other than in the work for the blind.

To take care of the specialized instruction necessary under such a plan it would be necessary to establish a field work, home teaching, and extension service for the blind of the State. This service could give the youngster the needed instruction in the Braille and embossed type, in use of the typewriter, and to give general instruction in readjustment to the handicap. The tremendous value in a plan to keep the youngster in the home and have him regularly matriculate in the public schools so far outweigh the advantages of an institution that the small expense necessary to establish this service hardly seems worth while mentioning, or considering.

In maintaining two state institutions for the blind Oregon annually appropriates approximately $75,000.00 for this work. Less than one hundred sightless are directly benefited. Establishment of one good Institution with field work, home teaching, and extension services--somewhat on lines the idea of the Endowe National Institute For The Blind in London, England, where work for the blind is so far advanced--would not only throw overboard an archaic and antiquated system; but it would establish a plan that would more nearly take care of the six to eight hundred blind that probably exist in Oregon--based upon the theory that there is one blind person on an average to every one thousand two hundred of population, according to census figures.

Vocational work could be taken care of by establishing special courses at the one centralized institution for the blind. Such courses might even be taught are during special summer sessions while the youngster was attending regular school during the winter months. Provision could be made for credits and grading that would count towards graduation.

Often the argument is advanced that an institution is necessary to take care of the feeble minded blind and those with an extremely low I. Q.--and there are a large number among the youthful blind. On the other hand; a regular course for those with average intelligence is after all no place for this group because they tend to pull down the standards of the institution. The suggestion has been advanced that the place to take care of them is in a special wing of the feeble minded institution; perhaps using the regular Braille and embossed type teaching service and extension work of a centralized institution for the blind.

That there has been a general movement on foot to improve the standards of the State Institutions for the Blind and Deaf is brought out during the 1925 session of the Legislature. It was Senate Bill No. 50 by Senator Corbett. The measure would have created a Board of Regents for the Oregon State School For The Deaf and for the Oregon State School For The Blind. The Board would have been made up of seven members, as follows: by virtue of their positions, the state superintendent of public instruction, the dean of the Schoolmaf of Vocational Education of the University of Oregon, the dean of the School of Vocational Education of the Oregon State Agricultural College, the President of the Normal School, and three citizens, at least two of whom would have been women, appointed by the Board of Control for periods of three, four and five years, respectively; ~~Each of~~

The appointees were to have been selected on the basis of their interest in the work for the blind and deaf. The Bill set forth that meetings were to have been held alternatively at the School for the Deaf and the School for the Blind, requiring at least quarterly meetings throughout the year.

The big objection to the personnel of this group was in its failure to make provision for a social worker and the social point of view on the group. In any body having jurisdiction over work for the blind it is always good policy to name a successful blind person on the group, and any such measure should make provision to this effect. Provision of this nature brings into the membership of the group one who has at least ~~practically~~ Heroically overcome his handicap. They are to be found throughout the State. Now the measure could have failed to have provided for membership on the Board of at least an ear, eye, nose, and throat specialist is another point that is not clear to the writer because this profession is certainly an important branch of the work for the blind and deaf.

In section 2 of the projected measure there was an extremely important point that would have contributed greatly towards increasing the standards of the two schools; something that is sorely needed. It reads: the board shall establish standards of qualifications for superintendents and instructors for the State School for the Deaf and the State School for the Blind, which shall be observed in the appointment of all such officers, instructors and employees. When any vacancy in the superintendency shall occur said board of regents shall furnish to the Board of Control a list of eligible persons from which such appointments shall be made.

In section 2 the proposed legislation went on to say that the Board shall also provide such courses of instruction, vocational training, and other activities as will bring about the best development of the children in these schools. It shall be the duty of the Board to study the methods of instruction in use in similar schools in other states with the object of introducing in the schools under their jurisdiction the most approved methods for the education of the deaf and blind. This bill was indefinitely postponed in the Senate.

The Legislative Session for 1929 enacted the following measure into a statute: (The measure appeared in a general appropriation bill for all state institutions; the appropriation for the School for the Blind being $54,899.00 for 1929-30.) Chapter 420. (Sec. 227). To amend section 6242, Oregon Laws, relating to the Oregon State School for the Blind.

Section 1. That Section 6242 Oregon Laws, be the same and the same hereby is amended so as to read as follows: Section 6242. The Oregon State School for the Blind, situated in the City of Salem, county of Marion, shall be used as a free training school for such blind male persons as are now or may hereafter be enrolled; provided, however, the length of time that any pupil may continue in the school shall not exceed ten years, except in special cases the Board may extend the time from year to year. No pupil shall be retained in school after it has been ascertained that such pupil has ceased to make progress or is not being benefited. Any pupil may be dropped for cause, at any time, by the Board. The Board may deny admission to said School to any person not suitable to be received or instructed therein. It shall be the duty of the superintendent of said School to see that each person enrolled is given a reasonable instruction in the same subjects taught at the public school, and to select the necessary teachers and employees for the successful maintenance of said School according to the methods in vogue in similar institutions.

Relating to the disposition of money belonging to inmates of state institutions, the 1929 session of the Legislature passed an act to amend section 6245 of the Oregon Laws, and provided that unclaimed properties and monies of the inmates, in event of death, and so forth, escheats to the state's common school fund.

Admitting of blind adults into the State School was provided in an act passed in the 1913 special session of the Legislature at the request of the State Industrial Accident Commission. The Accident Commission was required to pay tuition fees to the Board of Control. A problem arose within a year after the enactment of the legislation into a statute when the Commission desired to admit a Lane county man into the State School. Superintendent Howard bitterly opposed the measure on the grounds that the adults and children could not be mixed. Under the present system with the Oregon Employment Institution at Portland the segregation of the adults and youngsters is taken care of. The difficulties were then ironed out by officials of the Portland Home School for the Blind.

Registration data concerning the School for the Blind

Biennium	Budget Amount	Amount Spent	Employes	Men. Enrollment	Daily Average	Budget Estimate	Per capita Cost
1901-1903							$1.43 (per day)
1903-1904	$17.00			43	30		$250 yearly
1905-1906		$16.971.		40	30		$255.
1907-1908				38		$87.040	
1909-1910					37	$28.153.54	
1911-1912	$24.007.	$23.877		47			
1913-1914	$37.238	$34.720.					
1915-1916	$30.252		12	32			
1917				45			$699.38

Biennium	Budget Amount	Amount Spent	Employees	Enrollment	Daily Average	Budget Estimate	Per Capita Cost
1919-1920	$40.150		16	47	41		
1921-1922	$44.800		19		41		
1923-1924	$50.287.50		19		41	$47.500	
1925-1926	$50.800		19	62	41	$55.499	
1927-1928	$53.000		19	67	42	$58.129	

PORTLAND SCHOOL FOR THE ADULT BLIND

Oregon's movement to handle the problem of the adult blind began in the City of Portland as early as 1913 where the sightless residents were struggling with the complex problems of a modern urbanized community. Documentary evidence, as taken from newspaper files, shows that the first official movement to take care of the problem started in the office of the mayor of the city. Without even making a survey to determine the real needs of persons handicapped by loss of vision, the movement began on the general misconception that in education lay the solution for the entire problem. By teaching trades and manual work, it was then generally believed that the blind could be made financially independent. The assumption was that teaching a blind person a trade so that he could make his own way in the world would completely solve the question of readjustment to handicap. Taking into consideration individual abilities and the marketing of products in fields where demands existed, or might be created, were important points that these pioneers in the work for the sightless never thought of taking into consideration. Doubtless, those early workers ridiculed the cold, blooded fact that every known scientific survey of the adult blind clearly reveals that the greater percentage of the sightless can never be depended upon as being completely independent, speaking in financial terms. Calling on highly trained social welfare workers, who are skilled and professionalized in the fine art of aiding the handicapped to readjust themselves to their environment, was a thought that never entered the minds of those early workers in this branch of humanity.

So "blindly" these pioneers in a new field of social work in the State felt their way in the dark trying to find some way to solve thetremendous task of making a person without sight place himself in the world to function as near normal as possible. General dislike for the typical blind-beggar appearing on the city streets seemed to be a strong incentive that ignited the movement and gave it momentum. It did have the effect of stimulating a scholarly interest in the general problem of the blind which stimulated interest and study into the underlying causes of the subject. Although the commonwealth at this writing has far from reached a solution for the problem that may in the least be classified as scientific, perhaps the City Government for Portland is to be complimented for having passed an ordinance forbidding begging on the city streets.

The discussion in this chapter will trace the early struggles and efforts to launch the work for the blind in Portland. It will trace the evolution of the movement for the welfare of the adult blind as it developed in the former Portland district school for the blind as it was formerly operated under the District School Board off Multnomah County School District No. 1. The following chapter will take up the state-wide struggle to have the commonwealth take over the work; a struggle that began formally with the proposal by the late Superintendent Moores of the Oregon State School For The Blind at Salem and went through legislative defeat after defeat. The actual establishment and working of the Oregon Employment Institution For The Blind will be discussed in still a separate chapter with special reference to the accomplishments and achievements of former Superintendent John F. Myers of the Employment Institution. By quoting in great detail from original documentary sources the writer is presenting the evidence as

primary material in order that the reader may form his own conclusions at first hand. Secondary material, in the opinion of the writer, is too much like getting machine digested food. From the interpretation the need of the professional skill of the social workers in the entire field will be gathered. In the case of the Employment Institution, politics will be found to have layed an important part in the selection of executive heads within recent years. A bookeeper, housewife, automobile salesman and state senator, and brother-in-law and sister to State Treasurer Thomas B. Kay, who by virtue of his office happened to be one of tthe members of the Board of Control, have all served as executive heads of this Employment Institution For The Blind. The true spirit of the law, establishing the Institution, has been completely overlooked in the matter of placement in the world so that the sightless person can be financially independent.

Scheme for establishment of Portland School For The Blind first came to the mind of Mayor Albee when talking with Tom Long, blind cigar stand dealer in the City Hall. George Miller was also reported to be present at that interview. The Oregon Journal for November 14, 1913, goes on to say that broom making be taken up. Later the Mayor visisted a broom factory on the East Side where assistance was promised. George Mullin was the former superintendent of the Washington School For The Blind at Vancouver, was placed in charge of the School after it had opened.

Mr. Mullin was quoted as saying: "I hope that the Institution can be established and put on a working basis. Once under way, plans could be made for the city, or the state, to take charge of it."

From the columns of the Oregonian for November 14, 1913, the following appears in type:

Subscription to the $1,500.00 fund needed to establish a place where the blind of Portland may work at such trades as basket and rug weaving and chair caning instead of begging on the streets, will be received by the Portland Press Club. President John T. Dougall of the Press club announced that the Club would hold one of its popular jinks within the next week to help raise funds. Blind of the city will on that night be the special guests of the club.

George H. Mullin, former superintendent of the Washington School For the Blind at Vancouver, is scheduled to teach trades, and J. F. Myers, blind man, will teach piano tuning. The city will furnish quarters in the municipal repair shop, at East First and Madison streets. In the financial drive Mayor Albee was scheduled to head the list with a contribution of Fifty Dollars.

George Miller, not yet permanently discharged from the hospital from recent loss of sight, had this to say: "I want to learn a trade that I can work at. I will try anything to make a living."

Peter Schiltz, blind paper seller, who was another at a gathering in the Mayor's office, went on in his own individual way: "I want to learn a trade and work at it." Under his drooping, dark mustache there is a rare smile that he shows seldom, because so few stop to talk at his corner where he sells papers.

Frederick Miller, sightless musician, 156½ Villard avenue, continued: "'The sweetest bread a man can eat is that which he earns himself.' My greatest hope is to have a chance to use my musical talent, for I am a singer. But when folks see that I am blind they say, 'Come again,' or 'We will send for you when we want you.' They never send though. So I want to learn a trade, like chair caning, or basket weaving."

John Radamaker, Raymond Leahey, and R. A. Carsons felt the same about it. Tod Long, who then ran a stand in the City Hall, became so enthusiastic about it that he said he would drop down for half an hour in the course of each day to learn a trade himself.

J. F. Myers said that he would give instruction in piano tuning. Former Superintendent George H. Mullin, for six years head of the Institution for the Blind at Vancouver, Washington, said that he would gladly give free instruction for the projected Portland school. This gathering further discussed the idea of giving a course in willow weaving; and brought out the importance of concerts given by the blind in their behalf.

President John T. Dougall of the Portland Press club announced in the Oregonian for November 15, 1913, plans for a Press club jink to raise funds for the blind. On the committee he named Marshall M. Dana, chairman, J. E. Werlein, Robert Withrow, Claude M. Bristol, and L. E. Gregory. In advancing argument for public support in the campaign drive for funds, this article continued by bringing out the point that many of the blind people in Portland had already learned trades at state blind schools, but they had been turned out of these schools with no money, often with no friends, and with no place to go or work.

In its editorial columns the Journal for November 16, 1913, had this to say in part: There ought to be sympathy with the Mayor's effort to found a work place for the sightless. What these individuals need is employment to get a chance to make their own way in the world. The blind want to get away from forced idleness, and chose to join the army of world's workers.

"There is service they can render from which they can gain maintenance and escape the melchony alternative of asking alms by flaunting their defects in a bid for sympathy on the streets," concludes this editorial in the publication under the able editorial leadership of Editor B. F. Irvine, (Himself sightless.)

In the Journal for November 19, 1913, the following appears:-- Henry Goodell, sightless news vender in the streets of Portland, favored the plan for a workshop and thought that the blind should be paid regularly for their services. "I sell papers for a living. It is the only thing that I can do, as the city authorities will not give me a merchandise license and I would not play music on the streets, as it is practically begging. I have been stone blind for six years, but I have always earned my living, as best I could," he said. The subscription for the $1,500.00 fund after these few days of drive then amounted to $350.00.

This same article continued by publishing the news that a committee made up of B. F. Irvine, J. E. Werlein, and Marshall M. Dana were working on a special problem for the Press club. It was brought out in this connection that the matter would be taken up with the school board in an effort to have an instructor of broom making, basket weaving, and chair caning alloted to the workshop, who would also teach finger reading. Plans were at that time discussed for going after state aid at the next session of the legislature.

Further the Journal for November 22, 1913, said that the week's drive for the $1,500.00 fund had swollen the exchequor so that the total then amounted to $450.00. A strong publicity campaign for funds was handled through the Press club. In the Oregonian for the same date L. Samuels, donor for the fund in the form of a small check, suggested broader scope for the fund so as to take in every defective now in Portland. Mr. Samuels was then general manager for the Oregon Life Insurance Company.

By November 24, 1913, the Press club drive with the co-operation of Mayor Albee had swolen the fund to $620.00. One donor, declining to reveal his identity, sent in a check for One Hundred Dollars. For the tuning department of the projected institution an Oregonian article for November 25, 1913, applauded for an upright piano as well as the square.

By December 8 the Oregonian carried the announcement that Mayor Albee would open the new workshop for the blind sometime during the week when the article was printed. The article continued:-- Portland's first school for the blind will be opened in the municipal shop building some time during the week, with C. A. Mullin, former superintendent of the Washington State School For The Blind at Vancouver, in charge as superintendent. He is doing the work gratis just to help along what he considers a good thing. There was a fund of more than $600.00 on hand for the first work; but Mayor Albee said yesterday that he needs more to finance the project and keep it going till such time as it becomes self supporting. Worn out brushes of the street cleaning bureau were to be converted into scrub brushes.

On January 10, 1914, the Oregonian told of the blind making good wages at the East side factory and quoted the Superintendent as predicting great success for the infant institution. According to Superintendent Mullin, one of the nine men working on December 7, 1913, had by that time earned Three Dollars in one day. Others were reported to be earning living wages. The entire group of nine individuals were learning chair caning and other lines ofwork.

The blind of the shop presented a woollen shawl, made at the new shop, to Mayor Albee on January 13, 1914. Expectations were that the number would soon increase from nine to a larger group soon. On January 18, 1914, the Journal ran pictures and cuts of the workmen at the shop in action and actually making their way in the world. The school board at this date had authorized Superintendent Alderman to establish a day school for the blind. For a while the third floor of the municipal shops was the scene of the school. At this time the students were learning chair caning, hammock weaving, shawl making, piano tuning, and other kinds of work. In communicating with Marshall N. Dana, it was asked that the following be contributed to the school: few boards, a $60.00 loom, a upright piano, and equipment for manufacture of brooms and willow work.

"Blind man favored to lead the blind," reads a head in the Journal for February 8, 1914. Superintendent Alderman recommended J. F. Myers, (blind), as instructor for the newly organized blind school. In Oakland instructors with sight were appointed first; and proved unsatisfactory. Oakland then immediately changed to blind teachers, and the instructing staff in the California city was then entirely composed of blind men. Discussing the Portland school project, the article said that eventually the local institution might be made a partof he trade school.

In quoting the biography of J. F. Myers, the ~~entirely~~ article said that Myers was born 48 years ago in Denver, Colorado. He and his blind wife received their training in the Colorado school for the blind. At one time he was instructor at both the Denver school and shops for the blind. For 18 years he was piano tuner in

Colorado; and he was otherwise trained to instruct in the following: basket weaving, broom making, mattress making, chair caning, willow work, and other branches, according to this article. The article went on to say that he had come to Portland in March, 1913,--being less than a year at that writing. He was purported to be among the first to suggest the organizing of a school for the blind.

After one year of experimentation trouble begins to develop in the Portland School For The Sightless.

"The District may yet discontinue school for blind adults," reads a headline in the Journal for July 15, 1915. School Director H. . Lockwood had raised the questionmx at the last meeting of the Board, when Myers asked to be employed at half salary as an instructor during the vacation period. He was then paid $75.00 per month during the regular school period. Dr. Allen Welch Smith and G. . Lockwood were named on the investigating committee for the Board and teachers.

School Clerk Thomas declared that the school was nothing more than a workshop for the adult blind, and affords them an opportunity to make a living there. During the fiscal year of 1914 the total cost to the school district was $398.77; of which $300.00 was for salary of the instructor, $50.00, for supplies, and the rest for incidentals.

For July 18, 1915, the Journal declared in a headline: "School for adult blind is beneficial," The instructor said that it lest aids unfortunates to learn secrets of how to aid selves. Instructor Myers said in part: "The blind have learned self reliance and methods of self support in the school established two years ago by the school directors at the instance of the Mayor and the Press club." Further Director Lockwood had brought out that the school was merely a workshop where the blind obtained free material. Mr. Lockwood went on: "I have no prejudice against a school for the blind, but want to know by inquirey if it is really of educational value."

Myers forwarded a report to Mr. Lockwood: "W. G. Carson came to us at the opening of the school a year ago in March with hope of becoming an excellent piano tuner. He had spent 12 years of his life at the State School at Salem and had learned nothing by means of which he might earn a livlihood. It has been slow for him, but I hope that by February next he will be able to step out as a finished tuner. We have had to begin at the very bottom in this case and build up.

"W. J. Johnson came to us last June at the age of 37 years. He had recently lost his sight in a railroad explosion. Being accustomed to hard work, his hands were callousred, thus we had to train him to work with his hands without the help of his eyes. It has taken a long time to learn the principles of chair caning. As yet there are some points that he is not quite master of, owing to his age and other difficulties. He is beginning to read intelligently in the system of dots and his general moroidness and discouragement are rapidly disappearing.

"John Radamaker came to us when the school was opened, having attended both the Washington and Oregon State Schools. We have had a great deal to contend with in this case, as he felt that the whole world was against him because of his blindness and that he would always be an object of charity. Now he is beginning to be like other people. He is about ready to start with piano tuning.

"Theodore Schoening came to us in February, just out of the hospital, losing his sight in blasting stumps, with all hope of a future earning capacity gone. He is now able to read American Braille ~~with~~ with some intelligence. He seems to be more apt than Mr. Johnson, owing to his earlier education. He has not yet learned to trace well with his fingers, therefore making it difficult for him in chair caning. We are also teaching him the hammock work. We are making special effort to teach these men to go about without assistance.

"John Peters came to us when school opened without having ever attended a blind school. He is doing remarkly well,. Not being very well, he misses some time at the school,.~~xxx~~ He will receive his certificate in piano tuning next June and will be able to earn a good living. He is also a diligent worker with chair caning and is learning to read New York Point.

"L. H. Leahey is a student in the piano tuning department, but is devoting quite a good deal of his time at home assisting his mother in her confectionary store. His ambition to help in this was developed in this department at our school.

"Fred L. Miller came to us when the School opened, a pupil of three different blind schools, without the slightest idea of ever being able to earn a dollar for himself. He is very musical and of course took up piano tuning immediately.

"He learned to tune a piano in a remarkably short time, but the action repairing gave him the most trouble, as he had never been taught to use his hands, in fact, could not use a screw driver and was unable to go about the streets without assistance. He was granted a certificate in June and has been able to secure 137 pianos, so that he goes about the city without assistance. He is at present assisting materially in the support of his mother and step-father, the latter being out of work."

The Journal commenting editorially on July 22, 1915, brought out in connection with this report that a man had been made self supporting by the school.

How the school and workshop for the blind met the problem of marketing products and merchandise is told in the Journal for December 10, 1916. In the Portland hotel along Morrison street a store was opened. As many of the clerks as possible were placed in the store as clerks. In later years, it is interesting to note in passing, space has been allocated in the Meier and Frank store for this purpose.

The store in 1916 just before the Yuletide season was the first of its kind in Portland. There was a complete display of the work done at the little schoolin South Portland. Even musical numbers were furnished by the sightless of the community. H. L. McLean was reported to have originated the idea. The Civics committee of the Portland Womens club of which Mrs. Ogden was chairman joined in the handling of the store. Brooms, hammocks, aprons, shopping and laundry bags, and other articles were scheduled to be sold. Frank E. Sanders, distinguished Portland pianoist, (himself without vision), made several appearances.

In the Telegram for July 7, 1916, the head appears: "School for blind in Portland to graduate two pupils. Commencement exercises will be held in Central library hall Wednesday night, June 12 at 8 o'clock." Theodore Shoening and Fred Furner were awarded diplomas. Francis Richter, sightless musician and F. L. Miller, vilinist, who completed the tuning course at the school in 1915, were scheduled on the program for seeveral musical selections. At that time there were 14 students attending the institution in the old Failing school building. This was the first commencement since the school had become a separate institution in itself.

Operation of the Portland School For The Sightless continued under the School Board for the municipality until the Oregon Employment Institution For The Blind was finally established by the commonwealth under the Oregon State Board of Control and in full operation in 1921 and 1922. Beginning within a few months after his arrival in Portland, the colorful carreer as of John Myers as executive for the work for the adult blind in Portland continued after the formal taking over of the work by the commonwealth. For the greater part of the time the school was operated in an old school structure in South Portland. Almost at the very day the movement for starting the Portland school began there appeared the idea of having a state institution for the adult blind established in Portland. This movement will be traced in the ensuing chapter.

MOVEMENT FOR STATE TO CARRY ON WORK FOR ADULT BLIND

Realization of the significance of the work for the adult blind being placed in the hands of the State of Oregon was early brought about in the minds of the movement to take care of the adult blind in Portland. In Eastern communities governmental and private agencies had for many years already established the experiment of having the work for the adult blind placed under State jurisdiction. Handling of the work had not been extremely successful under the jurisdiction of private agencies for the welfare of the blind. Many cases existed where the private agencies had been unable to finance their undertakings. On the other hand cases exist as in the case of the Seattle workshop and lighthouse where private agencies are rather successful in their efforts.

Robert W. Kelso in his volume, "The Science Of Public Welfare," contrasts the advantages and disadvantages of public and private agencies in welfare work. In applying these to the rfield of the work for the sightless we find the following disadvantages of public administration: (1) there is little discretion or flexibility; (2) seldom able to meet problems as they arise; (3) lack of long time policy of operation, and a woodness of proceedure in expenditures; (4) unwillingness to pay salaries to attract the cream of skill and ability; (5) very impersonal, not human; (6) growth of pronounced officialism; (7) taxpayers begrudge small amount they pay for charity, and (8) blight of partisan politics which can only be remedied by the application of the civil service system.

Advantages of public administration of work for the blind: (1) development of scientific administration technique; (2) stable income; (3) greater publicity which is always given the public agencies, and (4) all persons contributed towards the support of the work in accordance with their ability.

Disadvantages of the private agencies in the work for the blind, as brought out by Mr. Elco: (1) lack of legal authority; (2) inflexatility of testamentary trusts; (3) lack of funds to guarantee continuence of services in many cases; (4) lack of public overseer; (5) lack of ability to expand and the lack of financial support for this; (6) lack of standardization of methods; (7) division of responsibility, and (8) cut and dry policy--lack of unity.

Advantages of private agencies: (1) initiative and invention in the field of research; (2) not limited in time or care for a given situation; (3) many have valuable religious atmosphere; (4) use the time, thought, and enthusiasm of interested citizens which is valuable; (5) no political interference and the change of political administration will not reverse their constructive policies; (6) so organized as to attract and retain the best of professional workers; usually have a better working board and administration, and (8) elasticity of method, new experiences which serve as an example and warning to public agencies.

Weighing of the advantages and disadvantages of these points by the workers for the welfare of the blind in Oregon resulted in the ultix plans towards having the state take over the work for the adult blind. Even Portland, the largest and wealthiest community, in Oregon felt that it would be better to have the entire work centered in the hands of the State. Accordingly, all projected plans for the welfare of the adult blind had as their

theme, state control and operation. Failure of private enterprise to raise the $1,500.00 necessary to start the original Portland attempt clearly indicates that the private agency was completely unable to handle this branch of humanity.

Through the efforts of the late Superintendent Moores of the Oregon School For The Blind at Salem first formal efforts on a large scale to take care of the problem of the adult blind of Oregon formally came before the legislature in the form of a Bill presented by Representative Mackay. In his biennial report for the fall of 1916 Superintendent Moores had recommended that this Bill be enacted into a law. Previously, this sole educator of the blind in Oregon, who came forward with more proposals to assist the blind in readjusting themselves to their handicap than has ever been advanced by any other Blind school superintendent at Salem either prior to that time or since that date, had advocated a budget allotment in his School's appropriation to establish field worker and home teaching service up and down the State on somewhat of a similr idea as is now operating in Wisconsin where all the work for the blind operates through the State School For The Blind.

The Bill by Representative Mackay in 1917 is the first and best attempt along the ideas and scientirific principles of social welfare work to handle the general problem of the adult blind. It was a real effort to take care of the sightless in their homes and to provide for the proper field work and home teaching service to take care of the serious problem of the adult blind. It was a general plan that is now working so successfully in a large number of the States of the Union and under a great many successful European systems, especially in England under that great agency, the National Institute for the Blind in London.

By Representative MacKay.

H. B. 65. for the 1917 Legislative Assembly:

An act: To Provide For a Method Of Industrial Education For The Adult Blind.

Be It Enacted By The People Of the State of Oregon:

Section 1. That the Oregon Board of Controll shall constitute a Board to perform the duties imposed by the provisions of this act under the name of The Board of Industrial Aid for the Adult Blind.

Section 2. The Board shall act as a bureau of information and in industrial aid, the object of which shall be to aid the blind in finding employment and teach them industries which may be followed in their homes, and to provide such means for the development of such industries and for the marketing of the products thereof as may seem to the Board to be expedient.

Section 3. The Board may establish schools for industrial training of the adult blind and workshops for the employment of suitable blind persons, and shall be empowered to equip and maintain the same, and to pay such blind persons employed insuch workshops suitable wages and to devise means for the sale and distribution of the products thereof. The Board may also provide or pay for, during their training, temporary lodging and support for pupils or workmen received at any industrial school or workshop established by it.

Section 4. The Board may ameliorate the condition of the blind by promoting visits among the blind in their homes for the purpose of instruction, and by such other ~~xxx~~ methods as may seem to the board to be expedient.

Section 5. The Board is hereby empowered to acquire by gift, bequest, or purchase, any property, real or personal, and to administer and use the same in harmony with the purpose of this act. The power and authority is hereby given the said board to alientate any property so acquired and invest and reinvest any and all proceeds thereof, and to receive and expend the rents, profits, or interest accruing from such property and to erect and maintain such buildings or structures as in its judgment may be desirable or necessary for the purpose of the Board.

Section 6. The Board may appoint such officers, agents and assistants as may be necessary, and to fix ~~thexxx~~ their compensation within the limits of the biennial appropriations. The Board shall make its own by-laws and shall prepare a report embodying therein a properly classified and tabulated statement of its estimates for the ensuing biennium, with ~~xxx~~ its own opinion as to the necessity or expediency of appropriation in accordance witith said estimate. The biennial report shall also present a concise review of the work for the preceding biennium, with such suggestions and recommendations for improving the condition of the blind as may be expedient.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the Board to make inquiries concerning the cause of blindness, to learn what proportion of these cases are preventable, and co-operate with the State Board of Health in adopting and enforcing proper preventative measures.

Section 8. Authority is hereby given ~~the~~ to the Board to use, in the furtherance of the purposes of this act, any receipts or earnings that may accrue from the operation of industrial schools and workshops as provided in Section 3 of this act, of from the sale of products made under its supervision; provided, that a detailed statement, of receipts, or earnings and expenditures, be made monthly and that all the money so received shall be deposited in the State Treasury monthly to the credit of the Board.

Section 9. To enbanle the Board to carry out the provisions of this act, the sums of $10,000.00 is hereby appropriated out of the State Treasury and in addition all sums which may have been paid into the State Treasury, as provided in Section 5 and 8, to be paid on warrants of the Secretary ~~as~~ of State, on vouchers approved by the Board, for the purpose therein specified respectively.

Unfortunately this document was indefinitely postponed and never went pass through the Lower House of the State's Legislative Assembly. Taking into consideration the money appropriated and the general character of the measure, it was a plan to take far better care of the hundreds of blind in the commonwealth ~~max~~ than is now done under the Employment Institute act of the special session of 1920 and subsequent amendments. It was an attempt to reach at the blind in their homes and to take care of them in that point of view. Field workers for placement and handling of those general problems and home teaching were provided for under the terms of this act. Provision was made to take care of the problem of prevention of blindness. Succeeding measures and the one finally passed appropriated enough monies to handle the problem of the blind; but completely failed in carrying out the welfare principles that are of great significance and importance.

- Two important branches of the work completely overlooked in this first measure of its kind to become before the Legislative body were the failure to provide a home for the indigent blind and the failure to take care of the greater percentage who never can be dependent upon as being self supporting and wholly economically independent. Recent surveys in California and in England as well as in other common ealths ~~c~~clearly indicate that approximately 75 per cent of the sightless can never be depended upon as being financially independent. This means that some sort of a bonus system or state aid must be adopted to assist those who can never be in a position to stand on their own feet. The California survey further indicates that 65 per cent are over 55 years of age; the period in life that marks the turning point when it is generally regarded in psychology and pedagogy that one can no longer easily readjust himself to his handicap. Mary Drenga Campbell, executive secretary of the Missouri Commission for the Blind, wrote the writer on October 29, 1929, as follows: "In 1925 the Missouri Commission was charged with administration of the pension which permits each eligible applicant to receive Three Hundred Dollars per annum. The ~~commission~~ pension being paid, however, by the auditor of State upon our certification of the applicants eligibility. The appropriation for the work of the Commission of the biennium of 1929-30 is $275,000.00. There are six shops in the state under the supervision of the Commission, in which the blind are given regular employment, and where others may be trained, with the understanding that they return to their home communities upon the completion of their training."

"Without Benefit of Sight," published for the people of the State of Missouri by the Missouri Commission for the Blind at St. Louis, Missouri, says that the latest available figures give the blind population of Missouri at 5,065 of which less than 2,000 are under 60 years of age. It is obvious therefore that there must be some means of caring for those who have no income, and who are incapable of useful labor; hence the pension of Twenty-five Dollars monthly.

"This pension is given to those whose income is less than Six Hundred Dollars yearly, and to those whose property is under $3,000.00 in value. The applicant for the pension must have been a resident of the State of Missouri for ten years. If he has relatives capable of much maintaining him, this, too, disqualifies him. Of course, the prime requisite for the pension is the ~~for~~ lack of vision.....Private field investigators run down every case to ascertain whether each and every applicant is entitled to the pension and state aid. The work has been put on such a scientific basis that it can easily be said that every deserving applicant receives what he is legally entitled to receive.

"At present there are 3,300 pensioners on the Missouri State list out of an estimated 5,065. Other deserving persons are being aided as rapidly as their situation can be investigated and passed upon by the commission. "

Clearly, these data reveal the importance of the pension and ~~aid~~ state aid systems. They are set forth in connection in so far as they are as scientific data in the study of the problem in its evolution in this commonwealth.

The Oregonian for December 28, 1913, tells that the blind make an appeal for relief from the Legislature and State. Homes should be provided thereby blind men and women could earn a living. At this gathering there was a committee named to work out a plan and present it at the 1915 legislative session at Salem. Representatives H. H. Smith and A. E. Lewis and Senator F. E. Howell were named on the committee to investigate and report.

In the 1915 Legislative assembly House Bill No. 204 provided for levying a tax on all assessable property of the State of Oregon for the purpose of establishing, equipping and maintaining an Institution for adult blind persons who have resided in the State of Oregon for three years next preceeding their making application for admission to said institution; to provide for sale for the sale of finished products, and for the compensation of inmates for the manufacture thereof; to provide for, and prescribe the duties thereof of a Board of Work Control; to provide for the location of said institution; to confer certain powers in the management of said Institution on the Board of Control; and to designate the class of arts and trades to be taught in the said institution.

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

Section 1. It is hereby that a tax of one-twenty-fifth of a mill shall be levied by the State of Oregon upon all assessable property within the State, for the purpose of creating a fund for the erection, equipping and maintaining of an Institution for the purpose of teaching such arts and trades to adult blind persons as shall be deemed advisable to be taught by the Board of Control of this institution.

Section 2. The said Institution shall be known as the Oregon Employment Institution for The Blind. It shall be located within the County of Multnomah, and shall be opened to all blind adult blind persons who have resided within this State for three years next preceeding their making application for admission to said Institution.

Section 3. Proceeds of all sales of finished products of the labor of said blind, while attending the said Institution shall be turned over by the Treasurer at the time of filing the quarterly report to the State Treasurer, and shall thereafter become part of the fund as aforesaid.

Section 4. In the manufacturing of products by the inmates of said Institution, the Board of Control shall fix a certain sum for each finished product, the same to be paid as compensation for the labor of said inmates, and to be drawn out of the funds created for this institution.

Section 5. There shall be appointed by the Governor of this State, to serve as a Board of Control of this Institution, five persons, three of whom shall reside within the County of Multnomah. Of the five persons thus appointed, one shall be appointed as president of said Board and shall serve for a term of three years; two others shall serve for a term of three years, and two shall serve for a term of two years. From the number thus appointed, the said Board shall choose a secretary and a

treasurer. The duties of said president, secretary and treasurer shall in all respects be the same respectively as the president, secretary and treasurer of Boards of Control of similar institutions. Said Board shall serve without compensation, and shall have control of the erecting, equipping and maintaining of said Institution, and shall designate what arts and trades shall be taught in said Institution as shall best serve the needs of the blind of this State. They shall also have power to appoint and to discharge the superintendent and assistants connected with said Institution, sell all finished products, fix the price as compensation to be paid to the inmates for the manufacturing of each finished product, fix the salaries of the employees, and shall have all other powers necessary to exercise incident to the erecting, equipping and maintaining of said Institution.

Section 6. The said Board of Control shall submit a quarterly report to the Governor, of the number of persons attending the institution, the amount of products manufactured, and the proceeds of the sale thereof, the amount paid as compensation to the inmates for the products manufactured, the different arts and trades taught and the number attending the instruction of each art and trade, an itemized list of all expenses and disbursements, and the amount of money on hand.

Section 7. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent the said Board from providing, as part of this institution, board and lodging accomodations to the inmates thereof.

This Bill was also indefinitely postponed.

After this bill, the next one came up in January, 1910, and was passed by the people in May of the same year. The Oregon Voter for January 21, 1910 gives this bill, as House Bill 77. It is an act to provide for a tax levy of one-sixth of a mill on all assessable property in the State of Oregon to be used for the purpose of erecting and equipping an Institution for teaching the blind, and providing for the location, thereof, and for the sale of all articles made in the Institution and to provide compensation for the labor of inmates of said Institution. The said institution to be known as The Oregon Employment Institution for The Blind.

Be It Enacted by The People of the State of Oregon:
(The bill follows in part.)

Section 1. Tax of one-sixth of a mill to be levied in 1911 by the State of Oregon upon all assessable property within the State for the purpose of teaching such arts and trades for blind persons as shall be deemed advisable tobe taught by the Oregon State Board Of Control and it is further provided that a tax of one-twenty-fifth of a mill shall be levied in 1911, and each year thereafter on all assessable property within the State of Oregon for the purpose of maintaining said institution.

Section 2. The said Institution is to be known as The Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind. It shall be located within corporate limits of the City of Portland, State of Oregon, and shall be opened to blind persons who have resided within the State for three years next preceeding their making application for admission to said institution, upon recommendation of the State Board of Control.

Section 3. Proceeds shall become a part of the general fund of Oregon proceeds from finished products and from the one-twenty-fifth mill tax levy.

Section 4. The Board of Control shall fix certain sum for each finished product to be paid as compensation for the labor of the inmates. It shall be drawn out of the general fund each and every month upon an itimized order of the superintendent of the Institution with the approval of the State Board of Control.

Section 5. Provision shall be made for board and lodging of the inmates of the Institution.

The Journal for February 14, 1920 sets forth the reasons why this bill should pass creating the Oregon Employment Institution for The Blind. The first reason it sets out is to remove the beggar by helping them to readjust themselves by specialized training. Many of the blind have stated that they do not want to sell pencils or to accept charity, but the plans for specialized training fail to take into consideration individual ability. This article states that the bill is "designed to permit the blind to become economic assets instead of a burden upon generosity."

Principal J. P. Myers of the little school maintained by the Portland School Board for the adult blind says; "I am a blind man. I am self supporting. And I owe my independence to the fact that through the generosity of another state I received training in piano tuning, chair caning, basketry, and broom making. Thus I have been able to support myself and family. Otherwise, I might have been dependent upon charity. I might be today selling pencils, or shoe-strings on a corner.

" For the sake of the five hundred adult blind in Oregon who can be helped to become self supporting I ask the voters for the bill proposing a small tax for an Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind to be located in Portland. Such an Institution will be like a ray of light in the darkness to the sightless of this State."

Pleas for the blind in Oregon were also set forth in the Oregon Voter pamphlet and in the Journal for March 1, 1920. However, in the Oregon Voter for April 3, 1920, a negative argument is given. It is unofficial and unsigned and is not to be quoted as the opinion of the Voter. It is as follows:

" This measure was hastily resurrected the last day of the 1919 special session, after in its crude form it had been turned down by the Ways and Means Committee, and in an evolutional eclipse was passed along with much other hasty legislation during the expiring hours of an exciting session.

"Irrespective of matter voted by the people, it probably will never become a tax, as only one of the millage taxes it proposes is provided for in its title as is required by the Constitution. In the title it specifies a "tax levy of one-sixth of a mill" only, while in its body it provides for this sixth for the year of 1921 and in addition, uninfected by the title, proposes to levy a perpetual tax of one-twenty-fifth of a mill on all the property of the State. While the purpose of this act is laudable, no such investigation was made by any legislative committee to justify submitting a measure to accomplish this purpose. So crude and imperfect is this measure that no one has been able to say with authority whether the amounts provided are sufficient or too large for the purpose. The framing of a proper measure, safeguarded as to finance and constitutionality, should be left for the 1921 legislature. Vote against this bill because of its manifest imperfection aside from the merits of its purpose, all of which can be cared for by the 1921 session, which will convene within eight months of the time this measure is voted upon."

In the General Session Laws of Oregon for 1921, we find Senate Bill 104, which is an act enlarging and defining more accurately the powers and duties of the State Board of Control in carrying into effect the provisions of chapter 22, of the General Laws of Oregon of the special session of 1920, providing for the establishment of the Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Oregon:

Section 1. The Oregon State Board of Control shall govern, manage and administer the affairs of the Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind as defined in chapter 22 of the general laws of Oregon of the special session of 1920, and it is hereby granted full power, authority and supervision over the said Institution as said Board of Control now has over the Oregon State Hospital and other institutions as provided in chapter 8 of title 29, Oregon laws; and in carrying into effect the provisions of section 1, of chapter 22, the levy of one-sixth of a mill provided for therein, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby made available and may be expended by said Board of Control for the purpose of acquiring a site upon which to erect and equip said institution, as well as for erecting and equipping the same.

Section 2. Said Board of Control is hereby empowered and authorized to expend the annual levy of one-twenty-fifth of a mill for the purpose of teaching, instructing, maintaining, supporting, and employing the adult blind who may be admitted to said Institution and for providing materials for workshops and the payment of machinery for the same as well as for all other purposes necessary for the proper maintaining of said Institution.

Section 3. That said Board of Control is hereby authorized and directed to employ a superintendent and such other officers and employees as may be necessary for the proper conduct of said Institution; and said Board of Control is hereby further granted full power and authority to make rules and regulations for the government of said Institution and to fix the number, duties and compensation of all the employees thereof and of the inmates thereof and of those permitted to do work outside of Institution as herein provided.

Section 4. The said Board of Control is hereby authorized and empowered to fix the market price of all articles manufactured in the said institution, and all articles manufactured elsewhere by the non resident beneficiaries and provide for and regulate the sale of all such manufactured articles; also to grade and fix the price of skilled and unskilled labor, and to fix the amount of work required in the various departments for the institution to constitute a day's labor, and to permit the inmates to work at piece work and let off work to blind people outside of the institution so that such beneficiaries, as in their judgment may require it, may to work at their respective residences.

Section 5. The said Board of Control shall provide dormitories for males and females in separate apartments, and shall make rules and regulations for the government thereof.

Section 6. The said Board of Control is hereby authorized and empowered to take, receive, manage and invest all monies or properties hereafter bequeathed or donated to said institution, in accordance with the wishes of the testator or donor, or to reject the same; or, if no conditions are attached to the bequeathed or donations, then to extend or invest such monies, or proceeds of property, to the best interests of said institution.

Section 7. The Board of Control is hereby authorized and empowered to employ one field officer, to work outside of said institution and throughout the various parts of the state of Oregon, for the purpose of informing the adult blind of the conditions at said institution and to advise them with reference to gaining entrance or admission thereto, and said Board shall have the power generally to fix the powers and duties of such ~~xxx~~ field officers, and to fix his salary, and to pay the same and the necessary traveling expenses incurred by such field officer in the performance of his duties.

Section 8. The Board of Control is hereby authorized and directed to establish in the said institution a library of embossed books for the blind, which said library shall be for the use not only of the inmates of said institution, but the books included therein shall be loaned, subject to such rules and regulations as said board may promulgate, to blind persons residing in this ~~this~~ state and being outside of said institution, and such loaning of said books shall be without charge to said blind person.

Section 9. Declared that the importance of the act was such that an emergency existed and declared that the act should take effect immediately upon being signed by the governor of the state. The measure finally passed and is a part of the law under which the Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind now operates.

The tenor of the movement behind the Bills presented during the 1919 regular session and the 1920 special session of the Oregon State Legislative Assembly seemed to hold to the theory that solution for the major problems of the adult blind lay in establishing an Employment Institution for the Blind at Portland. Careful study of both legal documents clearly reveals that the spirit of the law intends that the projected institution should be more educational in its nature with the chief object in mind of teaching the sightless person a trade to overcome his handicap. It was simply assumed that every blind person was qualified and able to learn a trade, or vocation or what not of that nature, and that the field existed for the marketing of anything that might be turned out.

Great credit is certainly due the directing force behind these measures in its pioneering efforts to solve this important problem of this branch of humanity. So serious is the problem that sometimes it is quite often necessary to reach right down to the very grave and pick up the child as individual and assist him to readjust himself to his handicap. Nevertheless, it was and can be done. There are the classic examples of Helen Keller and and the earlier case of Laura Bridgman who were both readjusted to their handicaps by special work principles from total deafness and blindness in early youth. It was at the Perkins Institution for the Blind, Boston, where Dr. Howe undertook the tremendous task of bringing Miss Bridgman back to her social environment. Facts in the readjustment of Helen Keller to her handicap under the careful and guidance and instruction of that able teacher and social worker, Anne Sullivan, (Mrs. Macy), are very well known by students of social welfare problems throughout the United States and even throughout the world.

In analyzing how these deaf-blind girls overcame their handicaps after years of training in readjustment one realizes the tremendous importance of the need of special and individualized highly trained

one is brought to realize the tremendous importance of using social work principles and the need of having highly trained and professionalized social workers in the division of the welfare work for the blind. The complete lack of understanding of this point of view is shown in the preparation of the statutes that ultimately resulted in the establishment of the Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind at Portland. Eventually this lack of understanding led to numerous problems arising after the Institution was established; and the ultimate result, as one inmate of the Institution once expressed it, "The entire work for the blind of the State going into the hands of politics and political ministerism. The superintendency of the Institution and executive positions herein formed a place for retiring politicians."

The proposed measure of the 1919 Legislative Assembly would have levied one-twenty-fifth of a mill tax on the State property as a whole, levy being made on all assessable properties of the commonwealth. Like the measure that followed in the 1920 special session, it provided for establishment of an Institution where the State was to furnish board and room for the inmates and students. Like the measure that finally became a law, it set forth that training and employment should be furnished the small blind who came to the Institution; but completely overlooked the matter of completion of course and the question of graduation and training out into the world after graduation--certainly important factors for an educational institution. Like the measure that is now operating under the laws of Oregon, it seemed to hold to the general theory that solution of the problem of the blind for all times lay in the establishment of such an institution; completely overlooking the importance of the home and home environment in our social order.

From the administrative point of view all of the measures for the adult blind have provided for regulation by the State Board of Control in one way or another; excepting for the 1919 measure. The document brought up the year following the World War made provision for a special Board of Control that was to have been made up of five members appointed by the Governor of Oregon. The Chief Executive was required to name at least three Portland and Marion environs residents for this group. The projected statute failed to make an effort for having individuals who might become interested in the welfare for the blind named on the quintet. Many of the commissions and boards for the blind at least require the services of a practicing physician, and often that one of the governing board be made up of an educator who does have a small amount of the social point of view.

The theory behind the 1920 act that was hurriedly put through a special session seems to have been that all work for the blind should be centered in the Board of Control for that governing body was placed in charge of the operation and management of the Employment Institution for the Blind. The board is made up of the governor, secretary of state, and the state treasurer, none of which are selected because of any particular ability to handle and administer social welfare problems.

In the 1921 regular session the Employment Institution act was completely revamped and revised. Sections were inserted requiring that the Board should name a field worker and agent for the institution and should establish Braille and embossed type library service. Failure to specify in details the duties of the field agent and the service that should be rendered by the library has meant that these important provisions have been almost nullified so far as actual working is concerned.

The legal English in the measure advanced by the late Superintendent Moores of the Salem School for the Blind makes a far clearer definition of the duties of field work and home teaching in its connection with the work for the blind. Probabilities are that that measure with its annual appropriation of $10,000.00 would have gone farther and would have done a great deal more towards helping the estimated 500 to 600 blind up and down the State of Oregon than the approximate $40,000.00 now raised by the one-twenty-fifth of a mill levy for the Employment Institution for the Blind is actually doing.

If the field worker successfully handled the important problem of placement of the blind so that they can be employed in the world to be financially independent, this officer would well earn many thousands of dollars per year in salary alone. Data from scientific survey clearly reveals that less than 25 per cent of the blind are employable. Even if the officer managed to take care of between 100 and 200 sightless persons in Oregon, under the estimated blind population of the State, he would be performing a duty that would be of investible value to the commonwealth.

In connection with the field work the institution should be required to employ a force of home teachers and as many subordinates as may be necessary. The general theory of modern scientific welfare work is to carry on the work for the maladjusted in their homes because the home is a fundamental institution in society. The duty of the home teacher is primarily to go into the homes and teach the individuals losing their sight late in life--and they are in the great majority--to learn to read the braille, type, to embossed type and to aid them in readjusting themselves to their handicaps.

The Michigan Employment Institution for the Blind at Saginaw interprets the spirit of the law establishing it as an institution that it does the startling thing of maintaining an employment bureau directly in connection with the superintendent of the institution whose duty it is primarily to find and furnish employment for the inmates and patients of the institution. Reports of the American Foundation for the Blind indicate that this bureau has been quite successful in its work along this line.

In view of the complicated nature of the problem of blindness it seems more than a fair and impartial and scientific recommendation to bring out that the law should require that the superintendent, field worker, and home teachers for the Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind should be trained social workers and have at least the equivalent of a college and university degree from a standard institution of higher learning in the country. Under ~~certain~~ certain conditions it might be wise to place executives in these positions who might pass a very rigid civil service examination in lieu of the college degree and social work program.

At this writing there is pending in the Senate of the United States at Washington, D. C., a bill to establish a Bureau of Welfare For the Blind in the United States Governmental Department of Labor. Prepared by the writer, the measure was introduced by U. S. Senator Thomas D. Schall of Minnesota, (himself a blind man.) It is Senate Bill No. 5010. Regarding the office of director and qualifications therefore; it reads: "The director of welfare for the blind shall be appointed by the president, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall receive a salary at the rate of $6,000.00 per annum. The director shall be a citizen of the United States who is a graduate of a recognized college or university and who has had training in social welfare in a standard institution of higher learning. In the appointment of the director preference shall be given to a blind person, if he is ~~otherwise~~ otherwise qualified for the office."

In his editorial columns of the Journal for February 1, 1920, editor L. F. Irvine presented an editorial discussion of Representative Horne's bill to establish the Oregon Employment Institution for The Blind in Portland in which the voice of the Journal proposed placement of adults and youngsters in one Institution with separate quarters. This idea later developed into discussions at the Board of Control and in connection with the School for the Blind at Salem.

That the Board was authorized to build school for the adult blind forms the gist of a story appearing in the Journal for November 7, 1920.

"The State Board of Control has power under the provisions of the measure passed by the vote of the people May 21, 1920, to erect within the City of Portland a building suitable for a school for the adult blind and to offer therein such courses in the arts and trade as they deem advisable, according to an opinion prepared by Attorney General Vanskinkle. Members of the Board of Control readily accept this added responsibility as a matter of course, but are wondering when the money for the new institution will become available and how soon they should take action towards carrying out the provisions of the Bill."

The levy of one-sixth of a mill produced approximately $160,000. for construction. There was a serious legal question as to when the money would become available. The Board was of the opinion that it would become available January 1, 1921; but the Attorney General held that it would not become available until January 1, 1922. The levy of one-twenty fifth of a mill brought in nearly $40,000.00.

In reality the money did not become available until January 1, 1922. The 1921 session of the legislature passed a special appropriation for $18,000.00 that permitted opening of the Institution in temporary quarters on West Sixth and East Burnside streets pending construction of the new building.

THE OREGON EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

Only a short time after the adjournment of the 1921 Legislative Assembly found the Oregon Employment Institution For The Blind established in its temporary quarters on East Sixth and East Burnside streets and in full operation. Only a few more months were to pass before serious trouble arose between the administration and a few protesting inmates that assumed such large proportions as to occupy front page, top head space in the Portland dailies for a while. So serious was the blow that the work for the welfare for the blind hasn't yet fully recovered from the entire event. Details on the investigation and committee hearings will be set forth in the following chapter of this document. The late Edward Charles Robbins, father of the writer, was named by Governor Olcott on the investigating committee; but was unable to serve on account of a cancer that a few months later caused the jaws of death to reach forth and claim him. For this reason the writer has had a personal interest in the institution for a number of year. Both the writer and his late father were active in the later campaign towards getting the institution actually under way. Between the writer and Mr. Myers there has always been a close friendship, and this friendship is to continue throughout years to come. The deepest feeling of admiration has always gone out for Mr. Myers in due respect for the work that he did in establishing the Institution.

With this in mind the writer desires to have it made perfectly clear that the data and evidence being presented are done with the greatest regard for fairness and impartiality as is humanly possible to attain. The interpretative matter is from the social welfare point of view and simply for the purpose of showing where the work can still be bettered.

Selection of a superintendent for the Oregon Employment Institution for the Blind was the first task of the Board of Control. The telegram for March 28, 1921, says in part, as follows;

"The Board of Control decided to appoint Principal John F. Myers of the Portland institution for the sightless as superintendent of the projected institution." The salary was fixed at $1,700.00 per year with board, room, and laundry provided. His activity in behalf of the Institution was a prime factor in this choice.

Selection of a temporary site for the institution was the next problem coming before the Board of Control. The Journal for March 31, 1921, continues:

"State Treasurer Hoff and S. S. Goodin, secretary of the State Board of Control, are in Portland today completing negotiations for a two-year lease on a three story and basement house at Burnside and East Sixth streets in which the State will conduct its employment institution for adult blind until the new buildings authorized for this purpose are ready for occupancy.

The building will be furnished for living ~~association~~ accommodation for blind students and their families, in addition to the industrial training equipment which will be transferred to this institution from the Portland school for the sightless. Twenty-five blind students will be accomodated as soon as this building can be prepared.

The Portland school was then giving instruction for 13 students. The Portland school board donated equipment for the state.

The Oregonian for April 2, 1921, continues to bring out that the state rented the structure for $210.00 per month.. The lower floor was for the workshop. The two upper floors were for the purpose of housing students and the administration.. The structure was leased for a period of two years till the new plant was actually constructed.

On December 6, 1921, the Oregonian tells that equipment is seen to be installed at the institution. Twenty-four men were mentioned to carry on industrial work, chiefly broom making. Five women were to be placed in the sewing department. Previously the women had been employed in basket work, bead work, and other fancy work. In this connection it is interesting to note that the products were sold to the public through the agency of space donated by the Meier and Frank Store.

Attention of the public was first called to troubles in the Employment Institution For The Blind when the Oregonian for January 7, 1932, carried a story under the following headline: "Blind men face arrest. Warrants sworn out for trespass on Employment Institution." Superintendent J. F. Myers swore out warrant. Trespassing consisted of refusing to leave the Institution when ordered to do so because they were not eligible then for state support." Both men had been staying at the Institution for some time. And they were entirely helpless, the story continues from the police reporter's pen. It was reported that the state board had threatened to withdraw them because each one was alien and the other had not lived in Oregon for a number of years.

In this connection and throughout the entire struggle the investigation completely failed to explain how and why the men and the trouble makers were taken in and admitted to the Institution. Certainly it is that a through investigation under social work principles and under the supervision of a thoroughly trained social worker, would have clearly revealed the record and tendencies of these men. Such an investigation and study would have revealed that there was a need of readjustment to the handicap, and would have placed the social worker in a position to handle the problem in this connection.

Continuing, the Oregonian for January 8, 1932, ran the following:

Charles Bishop and Oscar Johnson, two inmates of the Oregon Employment Institution For The Blind, were freed of charges of trespassing. The court scored both Superintendent Myers and Frank Potter, his attorney, for turning two helpless men in the street. In its complaint, the prosecution charged that the men were not entitled to be in the Institution and that the board threatened to withdraw state aid unless the men were evicted. At the same time the story did not bring out how and why the men were originally taken in the Institution.

"The defendants said that the trouble arose because they had protested against unsatisfactory conditions at the home. The men spent Friday night in jail. Friends escorted the men back to the Institution where they were spent the night.

The municipal court held that the two men were not trespasser s.

Further details revealed that Bishop was ordered out on account of alleged improper conduct. Johnson had come from Minnesota two years before. The statute establishing the Institution required two years residence in the commonwealth. Bishop was reported to be a member of a lodge at Tacoma, Washington, that could take care of him. At the same time Johnson had parents that could take care of him.

"Complaints of blind are to be aired. Governor Olcott asks for full investigation. Portland citizens to act on committee. The Board of Control is after facts. Management under fire." These are the decks appearing on the front page od the Oregonian for January 14, 1922. Governor Olcott named Otto Hartwig, president of the Oregon State Federation of Labor; Walter D. Usher, attorney; Harry Stone, general secretary of the Y. M. C. A.; Mrs. Ada J. Berry and Mrs. L. L. Torrey, as the five members of the investigating committee to get at the root of the problems of the Institution. Later Mr. Stone resigned. The late Edward O. Sullivan was then named by Governor Olcott, but he was unable to serve on account of his serious illness that a few months later was responsible for hi his deatth. Compl

Complaints from inside and outside the Institution, continues the Oregonian article, will be sifted by the Board. Every effort will be made to get the truthful facts. Superintendent Myers had been confronted at one board meeting with trouble and complaints from inmates. Myers attributed the trouble to the inmates, and further claimed that one woman employee was responsible.

"Should it be found that Mr. Myers, because of his blindness, is not capable of conducting the Institution, it is probable that he will be succeeded by some other person. In this event, Mr. Myers probably would be retained as an instructor."

The Journal for January 22, 1922, brought out the point that the Committee would be given a free hand in the investigation. It was charged with the duty of making recommendations to the Board based upon its findings.

Relating to the police court incident, Myers said that Bishop and Johnson had behaved "like bad boys." They refused to rise till noon, he continued, and would not report on leaving the Institution during the day. Myers went on: "Why do you know, when they came back from municipal court they yelled around here, telling everyone that the Judge was running this home, not the superintendent."

Bishop and Johnson, on the other hand, complained that the Institution will not launder their underclothes, or give them employment.

Bishop, native of England, suffered injury to his eyesight some ~~27~~ 27 years ago in a mining accident in Southern Oregon. Bishop ran a business at Tenth and Washington streets and at one time had 17 persons working under him. He had been forced to sell out in 1907. ~~He then turned to selling shines. For a while he ran a little repairing shop out on the east side. In 1910 he was~~

On East Eleventh and Hawthorne Bishop ran a massage establishment with the assistance of a shoe vendor. In December, 1921, he became ill and went to the county hospital. Physicians recommended that he go to the Blind Institution for a rest. He had been in the Institution for approximately a month when he was involved in the troubles that made him the complaining witness against the administration of the Institution.

Johnson, another complaining witness, had been blind all his life. Two years before he came from Wisconsin. His parents then resided on a farm outside of Vancouver. His purpose for entering the Institution was to learn piano tuning.

"Hearing opens at blind home," reads a head in the Telegram for January 28, 1922. The investigation formally began on January 27. The hearings will not only be held on the alleged irregularities concerning the trouble with Johnson and Bishop; but also with also on the petition signed by inmates alleging incompetent, unjust, and autocratic management. Mr. Myers denied the charges, and said that one inmate was unruly. In opening the sessions Chairman Otto Hartwig explained the purpose of the committee.

(In the appointing of this committee and investigating body it is clearly noted in the point of view of the appointing power a failure to understand the social problems involved. There wasn't a single social worker named on the group. Another startling factor is that the Chief Executive failed to name a practicing optometrist, especially an eye specialist, on the group.)

Edward Williams, attorney, declared that he appeared in behalf of the inmates without pay, and explained that he appeared as a citizen and a tax payer. He asserted that the testimony by the inmates would show that Mr. Myers would be unkind and cross to the men inmates, and that Mrs. Myers would be shown to have been cross and unkind to the women inmates.

Oates Snedecor appeared in behalf of Superintendent and Matron Myers.

The committee overruled motion of Attorney Williams to adjourn to court house so that public could listen in. The committee explained that it was after facts.

Mrs. J. F. C. Armstrong, for several years superintendent of the Washington School for the Blind, testified that one of the women inmates, of the Vancouver institution, Miss Ellen Syverson, who is placing charges against Myers, was a student in the Washington school for a year or more, and finally became so unruly and disobedient that she was expelled. Herbert A. Chapman, superintendent of the Washington School for the Blind, declared that he had known both Mr. and Mrs. Myers for 28 years and that they never before had been charged with cruelty. He gave testimony concerning the nature of those afflicted with blindness saying that often times their outlook on life became so warped that they become sullen, morose, unmanageable, and inclined to "feel that the world has given them a bad deal." For this reason, he said, "The superintendent of a [illegible] School for the Blind certainly has his hands full."

Snodecor settled the smoke of battle raised by Williams by saying that Mr. and Mrs. Myers welcomed any investigation, and that they would further welcome helpful criticism from the investigating committee. He pointed out the fact that the Institute is not a home for the indigent blind, but a School where trades are taught those afflicted. Certain discipline must be maintained, in any such institution, he declared, and rules enforced.

The investigation continued throughout a period of several days with newspaper men from the important dailies of the city covering the hearings. It was afterwards learned that the regular committee was assisted in the investigation by a group from the social workers who, it is understood, later went over the material.

"The Institute for The Blind Called A House of Mystery," is the point brought out in a headline in the Oregonian for January 29, 1922. The article continues in part:

"This is the house of mystery, where there are queer things going on, and where you don't know what is going to happen next."

This was Charles J. Bishop's designation of the Oregon Employment Institution For The Blind. He told of the refusal of Superintendent to speak to him for several days at a time. He told of mysterious whispherings between the Superintendent and others in the room where he was, and told of the troubles that finally culminated in his discharge from the Institution, his refusal to go, his arrest, discharge by the court, and return to the place.

J. J. Bennett of Baker lived in Oregon for 11 years. He has been blind for 15 years. In order to support his wife and two children he had arranged to sell papers on the streets. Bennett said that he found that Superintendent Myers was ~~not~~ persistent in his instruction of the inmates, ~~also he spoke very, vicious, cutfully,~~ but that "was rough with me when I asked him for work. He blows and snorts around and makes very disagreeable noises that irritate the inmates. He jumped all over me about my work."

Bennett further declared that one of the causes of dissatisfaction among the inmates was the drunk manner of Mr. Myers. Mr. Bennett's discharge was on the grounds that he was earning a living by selling papers.

Carl Parsons, 51, and 20 years in Oregon, spoke of an alleged spite system that was said to have existed around the Institution. One incident that he designated as cruel when he entered the Institution was brought out as follows. He met Miss Allen Halverson, another inmate, and in the presence of Mr. Myers she asked Mr. Parsons if he could speak Norwegian. He replied, he said, that he could speak a few words, and they had a brief exchange of remarks in that language. In the next meal time, he went on, Mr. Myers appeared and in a very rude loud manner declared that had it had been reported to him that conversations in foreign languages were going on in the Institution, and that they must cease, as it would not be tolerated. The witness said that he protested that all that had been said had been before the Superintendent himself, but that he was told that if he didn't like what was announced he could get out.

Mrs. Blanche Stanfield was a very reluctant witness, but admitted that she considered Mr . and Mrs. Myers unkind to the inmates. She said that Mrs . Myers warned her not to speak to the inmates, and that when she did so Mrs. Myers would not speak to her for a week. "If I would talk to any of the inmates, there was always trouble," said Mrs. Stanfield, "I have heard Mrs. Myers quarrel often with the inmates."

Sylvester Mayer, who had then been blind for twenty-three months, said that Mr. Meyers was rough and abusive to the men in the chair caning department; that he would jerk the material out of their hands, and use rough words to the workers. Mr. Mayer also stated that Mr. Meyers had discouraged one of the men from going ahead with woodwork saying that it was a foolish kind of job and should not be carried on.

Mr. Mayer went on to say that when some of the inmated protested that there should be a railing on one of the stairs, on which one woman had fallen and broken her leg, that Mr. Meyers had announced that he was going to "fire" one of the men if he did not keep his mouth shut about it.

"Mr. Meyers was kind to me for two or three days after I first came, but after that he wasn't. He had his favorites that he was kind to, but mostly he was unkind. He's kindly now after this trouble came up." said Mayer. Mr. Mayer admitted that he did not obey the rules, but went out without asking permission.

O. L. Johnson and Charles Bishop, discharged, claimed that they had been discharged because they had been active in asking for investigation of the conditions of the Institution. Both Bishop and Johnson told of the incident when Frank Motter, attorney, appeared in the dining room at meal time, after the appeal for the investigation had been sent to the State Board of Control. They stated that Mr. Motter had posed as a great friend of the blind. He first wanted to entertain the inmates by yodeling, which Mr. Johnson and Mr. Bishop said was a failure. According to the statements of these two men, Mr. Motter then urged everyone to sign a retraction ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ of the document which had been sent to the Board of Control. The men said that Motter became threatening when there was opposition and told them that if they did not sign it, they would not be allowed to stay in the Institution.

"He was very rough and angry all the way through," said Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Bishop stated that when they first returned to the Institution after having been discharged, that food was refused to them, but later given to them. They reported that their bed laundry had been unchanged until an appeal had been made to the Health Department, and that they were not given Bath and face towels until they went to the office and had a "stormy seige."

~~xxxxxxxx~~ There were about sixteen witnesses for each side.

Superintendent Herbert R. Chapman, of the Washington School for the Blind, suggested that a valuable move for the Institution would be the appointment of a board of directors, who could meet on short notice when difficulties arose, and determine whether or not they would back up the Superintendent in his position on the case in hand.

The Telegram for January 30, 1922, brings out the point that the head of the Employment Institution for the Blind had been accused of cruelties. It states that stories of alleged cruelties, most of them small, but nevertheless harassing in nature, were told of J. F. Meyers, superintendent, and of Mrs. Meyers, matron, by inmate witnesses, before the Govonor's committee investigating the problem. It also printed some of the testimonies printed in the Oregonian for January 29, 1922.

The Oregonian for February 3, 1922, gives a number of other testimonies, bringing out new points.
This article states that there have been alleged numerous controversies between Mr. Meyers and the inmates over money matters. The inmates held that money was due them for work which they had performed. Meyers was also alleged to have been unkindly towards Bert E. Smith, woodworker and cabinet maker.

Mr. Bishop testified that Mr. Meyers did not use the Revised Braille system and discouraged its use in the Institution.

Cora Elizabeth Cortwright, who had been in the Institution eighteen days as a relief helper, said that her observation of Mr. and Mrs. Meyers was that they were both overbearing and disagreeable to the inmates, and that they were always ridiculing someone, or other of the blind people.

"Their usual remark to the inmates after such affairs," said Miss Cortwright, "was that, 'If you don't like it, get out.'"

Miss Cortwright said thatshe was dismissed xxxxxxxxxxxthe night the petition for the hearing was signed as she was accused of instigating it. She admitted having read it to some of the inmates, at their request, and held the pencil while some of them signed the document.

Miss Cortwright went on to say that she did not think that there was the right combination of food, and the quality of some of it "I wouldn't put before a hog."

She said that the food was served in a disgusting way and that xxxxx if there was a shortage of any particular dish, that could be so fixed, it was filled out with water. She admitted that, as a rule, Mr. and Mrs. Meyers partook of the same food that was served to the inmates. She said that when she suggested some changes in the food arrangements, she was told by Mrs. Meyers to mind her own business. She said that all the while she was at the Institution there was no fire drill.

Mrs. Fannie Sherwood, seventy-two, who said that she had been connected with handling the blind for forty-five years, being a practical nurse, who took private employment in such cases, told of her attempts to visit the inmates and make them

happier, and of arrangements to have some of them taken out in automobiles, but to which objection was raised by Mr. and Mrs. Meyers because men and women were taken out together.

She told of taking one of the inmates to church and of troubles that arose therefrom and said "I tried to help the inmates and make them happier, for my heart went out to them, but I didn't care to come to the Institution and be insulted, so I haven't been there since."

Bert E. Smith, forty-six, and blind for the three years, said that he had been S. P. engineer since 1904. He entered the Institution with the hope of getting usefull training. He has made some cabinets and footstools, some of which have been exibited to the commission. He said that he was never encouraged by superintendent Meyers. He goes on to say: "I have been told that I was the next ont to go but if they will spare me until this investigation is over, I'll relieve them of my presence for all time. I cannot adapt myself to the conditions of discord that prevail here.

"I really believe that the blind can not lead the blind. I really believe than Mr. and Mrs. Meyers have done their best, but there is no limit to what can be going on at arms length and they will not know it. I had gotten all packed up and ready to go before this investigation started, as I find it an impossible condition here.

"I want to learn and then go home and do the things I learned here. The occupation of time and mind is very necessary here. The absence of it permits the concocting of disorder." The witness said that he had heard Superintendent Meyers speak over the telephone in a hard, rude way. "There seems to be a lack of courtesy, not only to the inmates, but to the public as well," said Smith.

Miss Ellen Siverson, around whom apparently many of the difficulties have arisen, said that she had been discharged from the Institution exactly one hundred and eight times. She said that she had kept count, because she supposed some time she would be asked about it. "I think if there is anything Mr. and Mrs. Meyers can teach it is friction. Mr. Meyers has been very cruel to me, but I abmewhat have got used to it. I've lived with my people in rail road districts, and Ill say that I never heard a section boss roar at a gang of Greeks like Mr. Meyers has roared at me.

"Every day of my life Mrs. Meyers has called me a liar. She has called me. 'San crazy,' and said I caused so much trouble I must go home. She tried to turn my friends outside against me. I was kept a prisoner in my room over half a day because they said I didn't obey rules and ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~ they didn't read the rules to us. The men demanded rules, and finally Mrs. Meyers did read a few rules in the dining room.

"Mrs. Meyers came i to our room and closed the windows. It was stifling, and I said, 'Oh, My God, I must have air.' She said I was swearing. It wasn't swearing; it was just a petition. I was hurried by Mrs. Meyers in my task until I'd break out in prespiration." said Miss Sieverson.

Several of the witnesses said they did not believe a sightless person was capable to act as superintendent of an Institution for the Blind.

The Oregonian for February 4, 19[illegible] carries a story of the completion of charges by the blind protestants. The investigations are said to have improved the food served to the inmates, the diet having been one of the causes for complaint. After the final witness for the protestants was heard those in behalf of the superintendant are heard in defense.

Charles S. West, final witness for the protestants, charged that when there was remonstrance ofer the absence of a hand rail on the stairs where one woman inmate fell and broke her leg, Superintendent Myers was quite peeved and said, "Hell, she ought to be in the poor house where she belongs." West said that it took two and a half months of continuous effort to bring about the investigation. The newspapers had held off from giving the matter publicity for several weeks, though aware of the alleged condition, because they expected the state officials to take action to correct the matter without any injury to the school.

West is reported to have said: "The food was fairly good when I first came to the Institution, but it finally got to be known among the men as the 'bread and potato' diet. When visitors from the State Board were expected the cook was given a hurry up order and concocted a pudding for desert." --"A little while ago," said West, " there was a marked improvement in the food for a while, and everybody wanted it, but Mrs. Myers disclosed the reason when she said that the State Board of Control had ordered that a record of the food served for ten days be kept and reported to her. We've been fed a little better since the demand for an investigation began." said West.

Mr. West further stated that the only money making work was chair caning, for which one dollar to one dollar and ten conts a chair is paid. He stated that fast workers could average possibly a dollar a day, but that some men take from two to three days for a chair. He went on to say that there had been two fire drills during the entire time that he was an inmate on the Institution and that blind persons had been designated to take out other blind persons during these drills.

"Especially objectionable," said Mr. West, "was Superintendent Meyers' in punching men in the ribs." He said this was done when men often had sharp tools or knives in their hands and might easily have caused serious injury.

Eleven witnesses were heard for Mr. and Mrs. Meyers. Some of the witnesses testified that the school was conducted as well as could be done under the present conditions of housing and appropriations. Mr. W. R. Owen praised Mr. Meyers. "I signed the petition for the investigation but concluded that I had done wrong, and I volunteered to get up a remonstrance to squelch it. I think our food was as good as the average of people in Oregon. I was satisfied with the treatment. Mr. Meyers arranged several picnics for us, and got us donations of street car tickets so we could take rides." said Mr. Owen.

Mr. Owens admitted "That Mr. Meyers talked kind of loud to me on several different times," and said that that was why he had signed the investigation.

Mr. L. H. Andrews, who has been blind for fifty-three years, and who is now studying piano tuning, said that the food was good and that the conditions were satisfactory.

"Mr. Meyers never spoke sharp to me but once and then it was coming to me. I admit that the blind are very difficult to deal with, as a great many are cranky. They are mostly carrying a chip on their shoulder and a great many of the blind are looking for trouble. They are not all that way, and Mr. and Mrs. Meyers are not of that character, as I have observed them." said Mr. Andrews. He told of his connections with other institutions for the blind, particularly in California, and told of the periodic outbreaks of trouble and shifts of managements.

Miss Alma M. Monroe, who has been blind for twenty-five years said that she had known Mr. and Mrs. Meyers about six years and that she believed all the inmates had been treated well unless they disobeyed the rules. She considered the food wholesome, and of sufficient quantity.

Reverend W. D. Stewart, pastor of the Glenco Baptist Church, precipitated a lively few moments. He testified that Mr. and Mrs Meyers were members of his church and that they had taken many of the inmates of the school to his church services.

"I've gotten so that I consider this Institute as a part of my parish." said Reverend Stewart. He highly recommended Mr. and Mrs. Meyers as conscientious workers for the blind.

"You say you considered this a part of your parish?" asked Edward Williams, attorney for the inmates. "Did you enough interested in those two men who were thrown out of here and put into jail to go over and intercede for them?"

"That was not in my province." replied the minister.

"You still claim friendly relations to the Meyers after you know they threw these helpless blind men out?" asked the attorney.

"I knew nothing about these two men until I read about it in the paper. I consider that Mr.and Mrs. Meyers did the best they could under the circumstances." replied the minister.

"Here's a minister who claims great interest in this institution and its inmates, but who was not interested enough, as says himself, to go and help them," began Attorney Williams while waves of applause burst forth from sightless men and women in the room.

Further remarks on this line were stopped by Chairman Hartwig.

W. G. Berger, withdrew his name from the petition after signing it; E. L. Seoville said that the Meyers had been kind and helpful to the inmates; W. V. Jennings, said that Mr. Meyers was a patient teacher "but sometimes a little irritable"; Miss Nellie B. Lomax had no complaint of the food and said that Mrs. Meyers seemed to treat all alike; Robert Hamilton said "Mr. Meyers' teaching is very helpful and the food conditions satisfactory"; W. E. Chastain said Mr. Meyers was a patient teacher and the food "was above the average in the homes of Oregon"; and Samuel S. Barrows said that "the food is much better than a lot of people get at home, and Mrs. Meyers has treated the women well.

The Oregonian for February 3, 1911 gives the testimony of several other witnesses.

John Auer, an inmate, testified that "A training school for the blind, giving them instruction so they can go out and make their own living, is a joke, in the belief of many inmates of this institution. This State institution is holding out a false hope to the ordinary blind man that he can be trained and go out and become self-sustaining; but the inmates feel that this is visionary.

Mr. Auer found no fault with the food, nor with the treatment by Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Meyers. He did want to point out some of the difficulties which, he said, were keeping the place in a turmoil.

"Many of these blind persons, are peaceable and of jolly disposition, but we have a few who tend to keep the place in an uproar. They are crabbed and are always looking on the dark side of things and magnifying little petty things out of all proportion."

Mr. Auer goes on to say: "The impression prevails among the inmates here that after they have learned what is offered them here in the way of training, they have to get out. They know that even then they can not support themselves. Even if we get old we will have to go to the poor house or on the streets with a tin cup and accordeon--and that is the terrible fear that lurks back in the minds of all of us.

"This institution ought not only to be a training school, but a permanent home for the blind--all of them; and then we would feel assured of our future. Work ought to be kept up, for the best thing for us is to be kept very busy; and I believe that the broom shop should be got going just as soon as possible;

but I think this commission will recommend that the law be changed so as to make the place a permanent home for the blind as well as a training school."

Mr. W. P. Salter, vocational training man, who was sent to the school to learn the Revised Braille system, said his treatment had been absolutely fair." and that his instructors had been very patient with him.

Joseph F. Stephens, who was attending the school to learn piano tuning, said that Mr. Meyers was kind and patient.

Former Mayor H. R. Albee told of the formation of the school during his Mayoralty administration, and highly commended Mr. Meyers for his consistent interest in the welfare for the blind.

Secretary R. B. Goodin of the Board of Control told of the system of purchasing food staffs for the Institute, declaring that they were generally purchased from scoop so that the same qualities were sent to the blind institute as to other State Institutions.

Secretary Goodin continued: "There are between two hundred and fifty and three hundred blind people in Oregon who would like to enter the institution, but the Board of Control would have to pass upon all applications, and only upon its approval can they enter."

Mrs. Carrie Aylesworth, who is the present cook, and who has been there for six and one half weeks, said that the food supply was sufficient, of good quality and of good variety. Her observation was that Mrs. Meyers had treated all the women well.

In the Oregonian for February 7, 1926, we find that Mr. Meyers was the last witness for the defense against the charges.

"I think my record here in Portland and elsewhere will show that I am as deeply interested in the welfare of the blind as any other person and I want to say that I would oppose any institution using State aid that is simply a training school for the adult blind. I think the money used for such an institution might as well be thrown into the Willamette river. I hope that this committee will use its best efforts to procure the amendment of the Bill by which this institution was created, if the Bill is at fault, so that every indigent or deserving blind person can be supported by State aid." said Superintendent Meyers.

This declaration was made by John F. Meyers, February 6, 1926 before the special committee that is investigating conditions at the Oregon State Institute for Employment of the Blind. Similar expressions were made by other witnesses during this session, according to the Oregonian of this date.

Mr. Meyers gave some of his personal history, tending to show his activities on behalf of the blind, and his qualifications as a manager. He told of his work as manager of piano houses, and of his work for the Institute for Employment of the Blind in Denver, and of his appointment as its superintendent.

In his testimony Field Agent [illegible] was emphatic in his declaration that he considered Mr. Myers well qualified to serve as superintendent of the Institution even though nightly. "This place is being run as well as either of the state or state institutions for the kind that I have attended, where they had superintendents that had right." Dr. Blumenthal also stated that the statutes be amended so that the inmates could remain in the Institution as long as they desired.

The late Superintendent [illegible] Chapman of the Washington School for the Blind said of Miss Jarvis [illegible] [illegible] and had been associated in the varied educational activities [illegible] of the Journal said that he had recommended Mr. Myers as the director for the old Portland school for the nightless, and that later he had recommended Mr. Myers for the superintendency of the State Institution; while Mrs. Maurice Lesourd, chairman of the Milwaukee department of the [illegible] Club, and Mrs. Mark Ayers, adopted daughter of the superintendent and matron, testified in behalf of the administration.

Describing his tendency to work rapidly, Mr. Ayers went on in his testimony to say that he was [illegible] rather than [illegible] to rectify mistakes as quickly as possible. "It is [illegible] to give all of my time to one person," he said. "I don't think that any of these men who have complained have understood me." He said that the attorney general had given him a ruling to the effect that the superintendent [illegible] if they failed to obey the rules; and that the police could be used if necessary. Any force as may be reasonably necessary for the purpose could be used, it was testified.

[illegible] I, being a blind person, can see for the institution in a proper manner, that the laws of Colorado which provide [illegible] us, are not kept up here simply because we are blind, helpless [illegible].

He declared that plenty of work would cure most of the troubles of the Institute. "Work all week, with the exception of Saturday afternoon and Sundays, and work that will allow the inmates to make some money. I believe that the regular scale of compensation should be paid to the blind workers in whatever trade they may be employed."

In discussing her side of the case Mrs. Myers, matron, said: "I personally have planned all of the meals, and always give the cook a menu for each meal. I lay out the provisions, and always there has been a sufficient quantity.

"I have tried to make it pleasant for the women in every [illegible] possible," she continued. Further she said, including the women on picnics and car trips. She denied that Miss Ellen Severson at any time was ever locked in her room, but said that she had been requested to go to her room and think things over to see if she couldn't reach a conclusion to do better and obey the rules.

Mr. and Mrs. Myers and their administration were upheld by the Committee of five at the conclusion of its investigation. They were completely exhonorated in a report filed February [illegible], 1[illegible]. Immediate dismissal of the five trouble making inmates was recommended.

[illegible] report of the Committee: "[illegible] and Mrs. Myers, [illegible] personal feeling was shown by the complainants, we do not find that the trouble [illegible] attributable to fault or failure on their part. Mr. Myers is quick in his movements and abrupt in his speech, and perhaps having the occasion for fault finding, as were some of these inmates, might attribute to his manner a wrongful motive. But in our opinion this is a misunderstanding.

"Most of the witnesses thought his spirit to be kindly and sympathetic. Mr. Myers natural tendency to work rapidly has been accentutated by the fact that as organizer and superintendent of a new Institution and as principal instructor in the shop work he has more work to do than should ordinarily be required of one man. We think that he has, in fact, shown great self restraint and patience under circumstances that have been very difficult and trying.

"We find no justification, either, for the criticism of Mrs. Myers. She has performed her duties as matron effeciently and with consideration ak and kindliness towards the residents. Miss Ruth Myers, 16 year old daughter, is eyes to the Superintendent and Matron in innumerable ways, and the striking fact in the hearing was that even the bitterest of the critics had nothing but kind words for the effeciency and helpfullness of Miss Ruth.

"We are of the opinion that the fact of blindness does not in itself dissuade any American for superintendency. The testimony was that many successful heads of other institutions are blind men. The real test is the character and ability of the man.

"Mr. Myers is, in our judgment, entitled to great credit. He has supported himself as a piano tuner, but for the last eight years has been the organizer and head of the industrial work for the blind in Portland. He is to be given credit in a large measure for the establishment in Oregon of the present Employment Institution.

"We found the chief cause of the trouble in the presence and activity of several persons who seemed to have entirely lost a proper perspective. These appear to exaguerate trivial matters that should be normally overlooked. If something happens that should be corrected, they fail to go to the Superintendent to see if it can not be righted."

The Board of Control formally ousted the five inmates by order on February 27, 1922. The body explained that it was a necessary step to keep up the morale at the Institution.

Problem of removing three of the five inmates was comparatively easy. Miss Ellen Syverson departed quietly for her Astoria home. Messrs. Bishop, Johnson, and West developed to be the three who declined to get out. It finally simmered down to Bishop and West in the last analysis. These two were forced out by Deputy Sheriffs on April 5; one in irons. After being taken to the home of Dr. West, they returned to picket duty and paraded up and down in front of the Institution. But they finally abandoned their attempts to re'enter the home.

The Board and administration of the Employment Institution turned their attention towards finding a site for the campus and buildings for the new structure as soon as the trouble had been cleared up at the East Burnside temporary home. The five members of the investigating committee were named to pick the site.

OREGON EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND--continued.

Selection of a site and construction of a permanent home for the Oregon Employment Institution For The Blind occupied the attention of the Board of Control for several months following the close of the hearing early in 1922. In choosing the campus grounds the Board relied on the assistance of the special committee that had conducted the investigation.

Newspaper stories related that thirty sites for the blind institution had been proposed. The appeal for donation of a tract of land did not bring a public spirited donor for the cause.

The Oregonian for July 20, 1922, carried the story that told of the choosing of the Institute site. The site of eleven acres was chosen near the Ellison Park tract. The location was between eighty-third and eighty-fourth streets on Ellison street. The ten acre city park adjoined on the west. The tract cost the state $12,500.00.

The Telegram for August 4, 1922, told of the Board ordering the Institute for The Blind to be built in Portland. Four buildings were in the original lay-out. The cost of the structures totalled $135,000.00. It was on October 5 of that year when the Board finally approved the plans for the buildings and actual construction work began shortly after that date.

With the heating plant there were five structures, all being brick structure.

The administration building which will be the most imposing structure of the new project, reads the Regents for October 9, 1922, will be a two story building and will cover a ground area of 42 feet by 180 feet. It was designed to have a colonnade entrance, surmounted with a cupola. This building will contain the offices, the superintendent's living quarters, dining rooms, reading rooms, work rooms for the women, and the women's dormitory.

Connected to the administration building which will be the auditorium, a one story structure, measuring 80 feet by 60 feet, having a seating capacity of 300 persons.

The two story men's dormitory measured 41 feet by 124 feet. The type was similar to the administration building. Sixty men rooms were located in the structure.

The workshop of one story in height measured 80 feet by 100 feet. Canning, carpet weaving and the broom making departments were located there.

The laundry and power plant were in a one story building in a 50 by 70 feet structure standing at the north end of the campus. The actual contract price for construction amounted to $108,146.00. Heating and heating bids amounted to $28,500.00. At that time there remained $17,227.00 for the purchase of furniture and equipment for the structure.

The Regents for October 16, 1923, carried a story telling of the completion of the blind school as set forth in the plans. Governor Pierce and Secretary of State Lesser were to participate to accept the institution from the contractors. At that time they decided on several points regarding the management of the institution. The question of admitted entertainment was in the minds of the Board. Discussion also centered around whether or not it would be a room for instructional blind.

The story in the Telegram goes on to say that Walter Asher, who had been on the special committee, said that he understood that the matter of barring other inmates than students from the school had been settled some time ago at that time by an opinion of the Attorney General which construed the statute to prevent the school from becoming a home for indigent blind. He went on: "It was also decided, under former Governor Olcott, to relieve J,F, Myers as superintendent as soon as a suitable person with eyesight could be found."

The Telegram October 17,1925, carried an announcement of the move to the new school.---35 inmates are to occupy the new Institution on October 1[illegible],1925. Mr. Myers said that he had been assured by a member of the board that he would be retained as Superintendent,thus nullifying a report that he would be replaced as the head of the institution because he is blind but would be retained as a teacher.--Rug weaving and broom making will be added to the curricula.

Forty reported for work at the Institution, according to the Oregonian for Oct. 25,1925. These figures included employees and inmates. Actual shop work began Oct. 25,1925.

An editorial in the Journal for Nov. 8, 1925, lauded the announcement from Salem that the Employment Institution was not for the indigent blind but at the same time was defined as being a place where handicapped may learn crafts that will render them self-supporting. The editorial continued to bring out the point that the Institution would turn out productive people who would know the joy of usefulness. This editorial discussed some of the trades already being practiced by the sightless people of the community in the East. At the same time it failed to take into consideration individual ability and the matter of marketing products.

An Oregonian story for Nov. 15,1925, declared that Superintendent Myers as blind executive was to be relieved of his duties as superintendent of the Institution. The article said that the veteran superintendent was handicapped and would be replaced; but that he would likely be retained to handle the industrial division. Several applications were reported to be on file for superintendent of the Institution. The projected plan was to replace the executive with somebody with sight.

Relative to the ability of blind persons to handle the superintendency of institutions for the blind and other executive positions, the following letter from Robert B. Irwin, executive director of The American Foundation for the Blind, 125 E. 46th St., New York City, New York, contains interesting data. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Mr. Irwin is a graduate of Washington State School for the Blind. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of xxxxx Washington, and then a scholarship to Harvard that brought him his Master of Arts Degree. For several years, he headed the work for the Blind in Ohio. His letter of June 22, 1929, xx to me, follows in part:

"So far as the appointment of sightless persons to executive positions is concerned, I feel personally that blindness should be considered neither as a qualification or a disf qualification in an executive. Adjustment to blindness is in itself a valuable experience which should be weighed along with other experience and training by any board selecting an executive. Often this experience of blindness makes a person more valuable in dealing with blind people, provided the other qualifications of an executive are present. Of course, blindness is a handicap in many ways, but this handicap is usually mechanical and can be overcome by sighted assistance.

"Among the blind executives successfully holding positions of responsibility and authority I might name the following:Mr. Calvin S. Glover, executive secretary of the Cincinnati Association For The Blind: Mr. George F. Meyer, supervisor of the Department For The Blind, Minneapolis Board of Education: Captain E. A. Baker, general secretary of the Canadian National Institute For The Blind; Mr. Herman Immeln, director of social service of the New York Association For The Blind; Mr. S. C. Swift, head of the library for the blind, Toronto, Canada; Mr. L. L. Watts, executive secretary of the Virginia Commission For The Blind; Mr. C. D. Chadwick, executive secretary of the Indiana Board of Education of the blind; and Mr. F. L. Frost, executive secretary of the Albany Association For The Blind.

"I should also name in this connection the hte Sir Frederick Fraser, who was one of the founders of the Halifax School For The Blind in Canada, and for many years its superintendent, and the late Mr. E. P. Morford, for many years head of the Industrial Home For The Blind, in Brooklyn; also of course

the late Sir Francis Campbell, whom you already know of.

"Outside the field of Work For The Blind many sightless men have proved their worth as executives of business organizations. Among these let me mention Mr. Charles W. Lindsay, president of the Lindsay Piano company, Montreal; Mr. Goldman, of Goldman and Sachs; and the late Mr. Pultizer of the New York World.

"In considering the worth of all these sightless executives, I think the main factor to be considered is that they had the fundamental qualifications necessary to an executive and that they did not permit the handicap of blindness to stand in their way."

There are other successful sightless executives in the work for the blind, including H. R. Latimer, executive secretary of the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind, and the director of the Pittsburg workshops; and the late Sir Arthur Pearson, former newspaper man and journalist and Magazine publisher, a worker for the welfare of the blind in London, who had charge of training tens of thousands of blinded English soldiers at St Dunstan's, during the world war.

The Telegram for November 28, 1923, told of Superintendent Meyers and Mrs. Meyers, together with three employees of the Institution, sending their resignations to Govenor Pierce. The reason for this, according to the letters of resignation, was the fact that the Board had hired three members of the staff without consulting Mr. Meyers. This assertion was backed up in the other resignations by charges that the trouble in the Institution was due to "unloyal help". The employees who handed in their resignations were; the cook, the bookkeeper and an attendant.

According to the Oregonian for November 29, 1923, the trouble began November 25, 1923, when H. R. Johnson, foreman of the broom shop, informed the head of the Board of Control that he would need an assistant. The Board gave him full authority to appoint an assistant. This authority, Mr. Myers asserts was never granted to him, the appointments being made for him by the Board of Control. ~~Few~~ Two days before that, Mr. Johnson and his wife are said to have had the ear of the Board of Control. The bookeeper had been ordered from the room so that she could not refute the statements made by Mr. Johnson or his wife.

Helen Humble, bookeeper, said: "I am not in accord with the political policy in loading up the state institutions with heavy expenses and making exorbitant purchases of supplies from thee funds of the people of the State."

Mr. Meyers also expressed indignation that the information concerning his removal as superintendent came to him through the press instead of directly to him through the mail.

The Telegram for December 5, 1923, states that the controversy over the superintendency of the Institution has ended. Mr. Meyers has been appointed as field secretary, with a salary of $200.00 a month and traveling expenses. It will be his duty to visit the homes of the blind people of the State, determine who can profit by training, and to teach reading of embossed type, typewriting, and handicrafts that may be learned in the home. Mr. Meyers is to begin his new work as soon as the new superintendent is named.

On December 9, 1923, according the the Oregonian for that date. the Blind persons from the Employment Institution held a sale at Meir and Frank's, at the Morrison Street entrance. The Portland Women's Club, with Mrs. Bondurant as chairman, sponsored the display.

After the removal of Mr. Meyers as superintendent of the Institution, as told in the Oregonian for March 26, 1924, Mr. R. B. Goodin was ~~xxx~~ placed in charge of the Institution until a permanent superintendent should be appointed. As stated in this story, Mr. Mahoney of the Panama building said that Mr. Goodin is after the job as permanent superintendent. He believes that underhanded methods ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ were used to obtain the removal of Mr. Meyers.
In the same article, Mrs. Clara LeRoche stated that expenses have increased under Mr. Goodin, and that the discipline is apparently not improved. Govenor Pierce and Secretary of State Kozer denied these charges and declared that they had selected Mr. Goodin for the position in the Institution.

The Journal for March 26, 1924, reports that Governor Pierce had been called on by a delegation of Portland citizens who charged that J. F. Myers had been forced to resign to avoid dismissal and that R. B. Goodin had been "laying his plans" to land the position for himself. Here Governor Pierce seems to have taken exception to the charges that the Board of Control had been unfriendly to Myers or had ever had in mind displacing him. He is quoted by the Journal as saying-

"Myers' resignation came to us like a bolt out of a clear sky. We had to have someone to take charge right away and Mr. Kozer suggested that we send Dick (Mr. Goodin) down temporarily. I am sure that Goodin never had any idea of taking the position until we asked him to take charge. And I am sure that there was never any disposition on the part of the Board to fire Myers. He could still be serving as superintendent of the Institution if he had not resigned."

Goodin was not to be allowed to hold his position in peace, however. The Journal for March 27, 1924 also tells of charges against him of extravagance. It was stated that he used 22 employees for 40 inmates and that he refused to put through requisitions for the supplies he was purchasing with lavish hands. His daughter was said to be living at the Institution at the expense of the taxpayers. However, when pinned down on this last charge by Mr. Kozer, Mahoney admitted that he had no proof of this assertion.

The Oregonian for March 30, 1924 said that the official opinion was that Myers' chances for recovery of the state position were not good. The committee which had been trying to get him in during 1923, also made charges against Goodin, but they were not seriously considered by the Board of Control.

The Oregonian in April 24, 1924, carries a story to the effect that Myers was endeavoringto get his old job back and thathe had visited the Governor withthat idea in mind but because of the previous trouble it was intimated that the request would not be granted.

In the Oregonian May 7, 1924, statement was made that R. B. Goodin, secretary of the Board of Control since 1915, has been made superintendent of the Oregon Institution for adult blind in Portland.

But the same paper on July 18, 1924 told of a state probe being order, a hearing being set for the following Monday and complaints being filed against Mr. and Mrs. Goodin of the Institution. The Board of Control ordered an investigatin of conduct of Oregon Institution for adult blind in Portland. A complaint has been filed to the effect that Mr. and Mrs. R.B. Goodin had discharged 26 employees since they assumed management of the Institution a few months ago. The chief complaint is against Mrs, Goodin who has been in charge during the recent illness of her husband.

The Oregonian for July 22, 1924 reports that the Blind School is upheld. The ex-employees complaints of conditions are held to be groundless and the charges are declared false.

The Journal for January 7, 1925, carries a protest of Mr. Myers against having nothing to do.--He seeks added duty; get only pay, he says.

Myers, field agent, wants something to do in addition to drawing his paycheck from the state. ([illegible] per month). For a time he went over the State interesting others in the Institution and teaching the blind in their homes.

Since early in October-three months before-he on Tuesday, told the Board of Control, he has had nothing to do but sit in his apartments and accept his paycheck, which reaches him regularly at the end of each month.

In this connection, Governor Pierce declared himself as opposed to the release of Mr. Myers from the State payroll, in as much as it was through the efforts of Myers, (himself sightless) that the institution was formed.

It is interesting to note that at this time Superintendent Gilbert of the Boys' Training School and the Commandent of the Soldiers home were slated for dismissal.

The Journal on February [illegible], 1925, carried the following article.--
"What about the Oregon Institute for the Adult Blind?

Shall it be a school, teaching the sightless those trades and arts by means of which they may become economically independent? Shall it be a home for the blind, particularly the aged blind?

These questions were brought to the fore by an incident a few days ago at the Statehouse in the office of Treasurer Kay.

Kay says a blind man from Tillamook came to him and wanted to get in the blind school to study salesmanship. In the course of the conversation the man told the State Treasurer it was the custom in California to give the blind a pension of $15 per month.

Kay said it would be better for Oregon to give a pension of that, or similar amount, and to provide thus for their support than to continue paying $61 per month per capita to support them in the Institution erected by the State in Portland.

There is a question which involves the policy of the administration of the school for the blind. That question is what to do with Myers, field agent. He was active in having provision made for the instruction of the blind, first by the Portland school board, and later by the State. While the school was in temporary quarters on East Burnside st. Myers was superintendent and Mrs. Myers matron. Late R. B. Goodin followed as Superintendent, after the new Institution was erected. He had been secretary of the Board of Control. Upon his death Mrs. Goodin, who has been matron succeeded him as acting superintendent.

Myers has made a complaint that under Mrs. Goodin he draws his salary

of [illegible] per month without working for it. That the acting-superintendent does not permit him to do the work of field agent nor teach in the institution. He added that he was discouraged from visiting the school at all, and that when he undertook to see that the inmates were given an opportunity to hear the symphony orchestra and grand opera as guests he was told his activity was an intrusion and not to continue it.

Treasurer Key stated that he is favor of putting Myers on a reasonable compensation, that he now gets, or to let him return to the institution on the same basis as the others--that is of [illegible] per month per capita.

A brief visit during the past week to the Blind School disclose that there were 52 inmates and 1[illegible] persons employed in various capacities with a payroll of $1,513.71 a month.

List of employees and their monthly pay, include: Superintendent $150.00; housekeeper, $65.00; housekeeper for men's building, [illegible]; maid for men's building, $40.00; foreman of broom shop, $150.00; foreman of chair caning shop, $7[illegible]; teacher of industry for women, $50.00; hall janitor, $75.00; engineer, $125.00; night watchman, $[illegible] gardener, $65.00; assistant gardner, $2.50 per day. cook, $100.00; truck driver, $50.00; four waitress-maids, $35.00 each; field agent, $2[illegible].00.

All employees, except field agent, receive board and room at the institution in addition to the pay.

It is apparent that the present use of the Institution is as a home for the blind rather than a school, and Mrs. Goodin stated that it is in actuality a home. Three were caning chairs for which they received $1.25 to $2.00 each. They worked under the direction of the instructor of chair caning. Three, including the instructor of weaving, were making rag rugs, for which they received $1.75 to $2.[illegible] per yard. One woman was weaving a basket. One was winding some string. One was sewing some bright colored rags. The largest activit was in the broom shop, where some eight men were busy. After a man has learned to make brooms he can earn up to $1.50 per day, it was stated. There was said to be a ready demand for the brooms. What the workers earn is theirs. In odd times, one of the broom makers, entirely blind, was making some small cabinets which involved measuring sawing, and planing and the setting of nails and screws. The work was neat. In the women's department some exquisite knit ting was on exhibit.

The women and men are housed in separate buildings. In the men's dormitory was John Aure, two years ago he made up his mind to be a violin maker. He was turning out all parts of a violin except the neck and scroll which required lathe work. His instruments have a full round tone and he was engrossed in the pleasure of creating something really fine.

No evidence that the blind were being taught systematically to read raised print or that they were being instructed in piano

tuning. The institution, under Mrs. Goodin's care, while it lacked in arrangements to keep all the inmates studying, was in excellent condition from a housekeepers point of view. It was clean and the supplies were in good order.

Asked concerning her attitude toward the field agent, Mrs. Goodin said: It is true that I do not like him and cannot get along with him. But while he was in the institution there was much bad feeling. And since he is gone there hasn't been a quarrel. As for the entertainments, we have radio and concerts in our own auditorium. To send the blind out it means securing persons who can see as their attendants, paying street car fare and taking cautions against improprieties."

It was further stated that the only regular programs in the rather large auditorium of the blind school were furnished once a month by the Adventists organization. State had installed a radio of late model.

The buildings of the institution showed urgent need of attention to stop serious leaks that were weakening and discoloring the plaster.

The Journal for February 25, 1925 states that the needs of the blind are to be taken up in the near furture. The question of whether or not the insitution was to be a home or a school will be taken up as soon as the legislature adjourns.

"The Institution as at present conducted is a home, not a school," said Treasurer Thomas B. Kay. "The State pays for the support of the inmates of the Institution about $67.98 a month per capita, as compared with $48.87 a month for the blind school at Salem; 46.25 a month for the state tuberculosis hospital for special facilities and care are necessary; $1655 for the insane asylum and $18.29 for the feeble minded institution."

He states emphatically--" I am inclined to favor a pension for the dependent blind, of whom we have about 500 in the state."

Secretary of State Sam Kozer stated: Any proposed action representing the function of such institution has been deferred by the Board of Control until immediately following the close of the presen session of the legislative assembly."

Governor Pierce referred not only to the policy of the Institution but to the employment of J. F. Myers, field agent, who has filed a complaint that under the present plan he has had nothing to do. The Governor's statement is: " I do not think that the Institution for the employment of the blind should become a home for the sightless. I believe that the original intent, that of teaching the blind some means of supporting themselves, should be carried out."

"It is my opinion that J. F. Myers deserves great credit for his untiring effort in creating the public sentiment that made this Institution possible, and I think he should be given employment, either by the Institution, or by the State, sothat he may earn the salary that he is now receiving."

The Oregonian for March 6, 1925, mentions the fact that Myers had given years of service for the Institution, that he had been surplanted as Superintendent and named field representative and that now this position was abolished by the Board of Control.

The same paper on April 25, 1925 announces that W. J. H. Clark has been named superintendent of the Institution and his wife named matron. --- Clark succeeded Mrs. R. B. Goodin who resigned. Clark was a member of the school board and a senator. He was prominent in Business circles in Portland. Mrs. Goodin was at the head for the past year and succeeded her husband who died while acting as head of the Instution.

The Journal for December 6, 1925 stated that a fund campaign is being conducted by the Oregon Benevolent Association for the Blind for money to erect a home for the indigent blind of this State. Dr. Carl Parsons, president of the Association was in charge of the campaign.

"People do not realize the problem life presents to the many destitute blind men and women." Dr. Parsons said in explaining such a great difficulty was in finding comfortable places to live which are within the means of these persons whose only income is derived from peddling from door to door. The State Institution, he stated, is for vocational training, but no place where the blind can live cheaply.

The Journal for February 6, 1926 tells that $[illegible] is being sought for this home. The site is also being sought and it was hoped to begin construction before the end of the year. The Association hopes to establish a modern surgical clinic where the vision of those in danger of going blind might be saved. This is in addition to the home which they are planning.

The proposed Institution would take care of about fifty blind. Substantial pledges have already been received from business men of the city. The other officials of the association who are assisting with the campaign are: Ellis Richardson, vice president; Mrs Ellis Richardson, secretary; Charles J. Bishop. The directors are Mrs. Duel, and Mr. and Mrs Richardson. The advisory board, Dr. Charles Petheram, Dr. L. M. Snow, Dr. Peter Kokko and Dr. Parsons.

The Oregonian for June 3, 1926 stated that Tom Kay is in favor of a pension for the blind and explains what this pension would mean. He says that the Portland Institution is not a school, that the system by which it is conducted is costly. The new plan outlined would enable adults to remain in their own homes and work.

This article states that Thomas B. Kay, State Treasurer representing the State Board of Control, told the Social Workers Association of Oregon at its luncheon yesterday at the Y. W. C. A. that the State of Oregoncught to enact a law to pension the adult blind, rather than continue to support the Employment Institution for the blind in Portland. He advocated the pension system on the ground that it would provide the greatest good for the greatest number, which is the chief object of all state institutions. He declared that the Portland Employment Institution serves as a home where the inmates remain after learning a trade, thus costing the state about $70.00 per capita, which is a far higher figure than the cost per capita in any of the State Institutions. He believes that a pension of $20.00 to $30.00 a month would be a better policy.

In the list of expenses of State Institutions read by the speaker, the State Tuberculosis hospital, with a percapita cost of $45.98 per month, with one hundred and eighty inmates to care for, was the next in expense to the blind Employment Institution.

Mr. Kay further stated that inmates of the adult blind institution frequently make complaints, in spite of the fact that the state gives them board and lodging, instruction, materials and machinery; pays them standard wages in the broom factory; and in such industries as chair caning, pays them fifty per cent of the money earned.

"I have not felt that the establishment of this adult school was a wise move, and other members of the Board agree with me. The idea in establishing it was to teach a trade to the inmates, who should then graduate, but over ninety per cent ate there, not to learn a trade, but simply to make a home. No other institution in the State costs such a sum as seventy dollars per capita per month. Rather than continue to support this institution, our idea is to put all adult blind in the State in need of support on a pension." said Mr. Kay.

This idea is favored by blind persons not in the Employment Institution, Mr. Kay said, although those who are at present inmates naturally do not wish to leave.

The Social Workers Committee investigating the Blind Institution and the conditions among the blind, was composed of Mrs. Cora Davis, assistant director of the Public Welfare Bureau, chairman; Miss Margaret Levinson, and George Todd, director of the South Portland Settlement Center, Miss Jane Doyle, executive secretary of the Portland chapter of the Red Cross, presided yesterday.

The Oregonian for June ~~[illegible]~~ 10, 1926 reports that recommendations of the special committee of the Social Workers Association of Oregon regarding the State provision for the adult blind will be turned over to a legislative committee of the Association for study and action. The recommendations included one endorsing the suggestion of a pension system for the indigent blind, made by Mr. Kay. A definite policy for that Employment Institution is recommended by the committee, since the Institution was planned for a school and has become a home for the indigent blind. Should it be made to fulfill its original purpose as a school, the committee recommended that an Employment agency for its graduates be provided. A higher percentage of their earnings should also go to the blind, who receive fifty per cent on work such as chair caning taken in by the Institution, the recommendations said. An arrangement whereby the graduates of the school might live at the Institution and work there might also be made, by increasing the accomodations of the school, it was suggested.

Miss Margaret Levinson, executive secretary of the Confidential Exchange of the Community Chest, read the report.

~~[illegible]~~

In the Oregonian for July 3, 1927 we find that the per capita cost of operating the State Employment Institution for adult blind in Portland has decreased the past year from an average of $55.63 per month to $[illegible], according to a report filed with the Board of Control today by Carl Abrams, the acting superintendent for the past year.

The report shows that very satisfactory progress is being made in the development of industries, particularly with respect to the broom factory, in which the output is expected to double during the next year.

Mr. Kay, State Treasurer has stated in June, 1926, that the per capita costs of the Employment Institution was $57.77 a month but with the upkeep of the buildings and other expenses, it amounts to about $70.00 per capita per month.

The Journal for May 7, 1926 carries the report that the Board of Control will not order admission of Mr. and Mrs. Myers as residents into the Employment Institution, on complaint of Mrs

Mrs. Minnie Gilde, 650 Jarrett St., Portland, The Board held that the place is not a home but a school, and that Mr. Meyers is getting enough compensation to maintain his own home.

In the Telegram for November 19, 1926, we learn that on Friday night, more than forty blind persons sat in front rows at John Hamrick's Music Box, to listen to a motion picture, "The Terror". The reviewer sat among them trying to draw, from the comment, some conclusion as to their understanding of the picture. The consensus of opinion expressed by members of the Oregon School For The Blind was that "Unless some way is developed for the sequence of the plot to be given us, the blind will never be able to enjoy a moving picture."

HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE BLIND IN OREGON

Holding to the theory that the blind students in institutions of higher education should be given an equal chance at least with the so-called sighted students, the movement for state aid to students in the universities and colleges of the state began. When the late Superintendent Moores of the Oregon State School For The Blind made recommendation for enactment of a law along these lines in his 1916 report to the Oregon Legislature, the first official document of this nature to come to the attention of the Oregon Legislature, many of the Eastern commonwealths had already established laws along this line. At this writing sightless students attending the University of California at Berkley receive Three Hundred Dollars per school year from the State Department for their higher education; and in addition they are given free board and room at the California School For The Blind and are exempt from payment of ~~fees.~~ fees

During the 1917 session of the Oregon Legislative Assembly Senate Bill 160 was designed to assist blind persons who are citizens and residents of Oregon to secure a higher technical, or professional, education, and appropriating Three Hundred Dollars per year for realizing. The measure was indefinitely postponed in the Upper House of the Legislature.

First enactment of the legislation did not come till 1921 when the measure by Representative Gilliam [illegible] of Portland, House Bill No. 141, was enacted into law. It allocated a sum of not to exceed five hundred dollars per year for blind students regularly enrolled at the University of Oregon, the Oregon Agricultural College, and other institutions of higher learning in the State of Oregon. She not requires that the applicant must have resided in Oregon for three years preceding.

In the biennial period of 1925-26 there [illegible] been [illegible] of the reserve. One became a member of an [illegible] association and moved to some part of the state. After graduating from the [illegible] School at Salem, a second has taught school in the state for several years. The third is now a member of the faculty of the Psychology department of the University of Oregon at this writing. During the school year of 1929-30 eight blind students were given the benefits of the act.

In 1927 Senate Bill 250, by the [illegible] Joint Committee on Ways and Means, attempted to amend the measure of the 1923 session so as to read as follows: "Section 1. The sum of not to exceed five hundred dollars per year for the years of 1927 and 1928 or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to educate blind persons, male and female, in any state institution of higher learning located in the state of Oregon. Such is hereby appropriated out of any money in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for the year of [illegible] eight hundred dollars for blind students attending the University of Oregon or other institution of higher learning within the state of Oregon."

This act which have terminated the law [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] failed to get beyond the senate.

Bibliographical note of chapter on higher education for the blind in Oregon.

A purport of the House of Representatives debate on H. B. 14 of the 1923 Legislative Assembly is given in one of the issues of the Oregon Voter for March, 1923. ~~State Trxxx~~ Representative Thomas B. Kay, now State Treasurer, led the fight against the Bill in the House. Representative Woodward, who introduced the measure for the writer, took the lead in behalf of the Act. Forty-three of the members of the ~~Sixx~~ Sixty in the House voted for the measure. Mr. Kay only secured support of ten members. Seven Representatives were absent at the roll call. The measure went through the Senate by unanimous vote and was immediately signed by Governor ~~Pixx~~ Pierce.

(Note: Representative Kay, now State Treasurer--1930--, is a member of the Board of Control which named his Sister Mrs. Leonore-Kay Roberts as superintendent of the Oregon Employment Institution For The Blind In Portland.)

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An act: To permit blind and semi-blind persons with actively definitive vision to operate stands in state, county, and municipal buildings and dependencies of political subdivisions of the Commonwealth throughout the State of Oregon.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

Section 1. The State Board of Control, or other agency in charge of state buildings, shall have the power to issue a license to any adult blind American citizen and legal resident of the commonwealth of five years standing over the age of 21 years for the vending of newspapers, periodicals, goods, and other items to be designated by the board, or agency in charge, in state buildings which may be set aside for this purpose by the board, or other governmental body.

Section 2. The county courts, or boards of County Commissioners, or other agency in proper authority, in the counties of the State of Oregon, the mayors and councils of cities and towns, or the proper governmental power of any political subdivision of the State of Oregon shall have the power to issue a license to any adult blind American citizen over the age of 21 years and a legal resident of the state of five years standing, for the purpose of vending newspapers, periodicals, goods, and other items to be designated by the governmental body in such places as the respective governmental authority may set aside for this purpose.

Section 3. Upon application therefore, in accordance with regulations prescribed by them the proper governmental agency, the proper governmental authority is authorized to issue licenses for periods of from one to five years. The agency issuing licenses shall have power to determine the length of time for which a certain blind license shall run; provided, however, that it is not for less than one year, nor for more than five years.

~~for more than five years~~. Such licenses shall be issued only to blind persons who are intelligent and able to operate stands, and who are (1) persons honorably discharged from the United States military or naval service who are blind, or (2) persons who because of blindness or seriously defective vision are unable to compete with persons whose eyesight is not seriously impaired. (The purpose and theory of this act should be interpreted as taking care of blind persons and those with seriously defective vision to the extent that they are unable to compete with the outside world. The contention is that those with other handicaps can turn to other fields where they can use their eyes. The nature of blindness is so serious and this is one field of economic independency which the blind can handle successfully; so this act is to establish the benefit of immunity in this field.)

No application of any person in group 2 shall be considered until all qualified applicants in group 1 shall have received preference in the licensing. No original license shall be issued to any person who in the taxable year preceding application therefor had a net income sufficient to subject him to the payment of state or federal income tax.

In event any individual, or individuals, may be operating stands in any building affected by this act, such individuals shall be permitted to continue as operators of this type respective stands throughout their natural lifetime; unless the respective governing authority in charge may decide to place a blind person in the respective stand involved whereupon that governing authority after giving notice of 30 days shall place a blind person in the stand, if they so desire. However, when any such individual operating the stand at time of passage of this measure may decide to give up his stand for any reason whatsoever, the proper governing authority shall issue license only to eligible persons entitled under the terms of this measure to receive licenses.

No license shall be revoked without cause.

There shall be no fee of any kind levied for any ~~kind~~

blind person operating a stand. Any such blind licensee shall be exempt from all state, county, municipal, and local privilege fees that may be levied against a stand or business of this nature for the specific purpose of raising revenue from this particular business enterprise.

Section 4. Each stand shall, as far as practicable, conform to the general architectural plan of the building in which it is located. The licensee shall act as an information bureau for the particular building in which the stand is to be operated. The proper governmental authority shall require proof, by medical certificate or affidavit, of any that claimed by the applicant to entitle him to a license as a blind person.

Section 5. In the event of the death of the holder of a license issued under this act, leaving a widow or dependent relative, the license shall continue in full force and effect for the benefit of the widow or dependent relatives until the end of the calendar year during which time the death of the licensee took place; but no such license shall be renewed for the benefit of any person who would be ineligible as an original licensee under the provisions of this act.

Section 6. It shall be a condition upon the continuance in force of any such license that the licensee shall be in attendance at the stand for at least one-half of the time during each working day that such stand is in operation unless he is prevented from so doing on account of illness; except that the licensee may be permitted to take leave but in excess of 30 working days out of every calendar year. Proof by medical certificate of the inability on account of illness of any licensee to be in attendance at his stand shall be required by the proper governing authority.

Section 7. To secure intelligent operators for the stands the civil service may be applied where such a system exists under the laws of the state, or community.